

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF ASTRONAUT JOE  
FRANK EDWARDS, JR.

**HON. BOB RILEY**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the extraordinary accomplishments of one of Alabama's finest, Astronaut Joe Frank Edwards, Jr., of Lineville, Alabama, who is piloting the space shuttle *Endeavor*, which took off on January 22, 1998.

Graduating from Clay County's Lineville High School in 1976, Joe went on to receive a B.S. degree in Aerospace Engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1980 and an M.S. in Aviation Systems from the University of Tennessee in 1994. As a Naval Aviator, Joe has been honored with many medals, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal. Joe has also received the Daedalian Superior Airmanship Award in 1992, the Fighter Squadron 143 Fighter Pilot of the Year in 1984 and 1985, the Fighter Squadron 142 Fighter Pilot of the Year in 1990, 1991, and 1992, and the Carrier Airwing Seven Pilot of the Year in 1985, 1990, and 1991.

In December 1994, Joe was selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA. After completing a year of training and evaluation, he has qualified for assignment as a shuttle pilot.

During the STS-89 mission, Joe will be responsible for undocking from the eighth shuttle rendezvous with Russia's Mir Space Station and piloting the flight around the space station. The nine day shuttle mission objectives include replacing astronaut Dr. David Wolf with Andy Thomas who will be the next U.S. crew member on the Mir Space Station. More than 7,000 pounds of experiments, supplies, and hardware are scheduled to be transferred between the two spacecraft.

Clay County, as well as all of Alabama, is very proud of Joe's exceptional hard work and commitment to space flight. I congratulate Joe on this extraordinary honor and am proud to have him represent us on this important mission.

FULFILLING THE PROMISE OF  
MANAGED CARE

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, my bill H.R. 337 establishes consumer protections in managed care plans—just like many other bills currently pending before the Congress.

One unique feature in H.R. 337, however, is the requirement that when a managed care plan enrolls a person, they must soon do a health profile or work-up on that person. Medi-

care and private insurance plans pay an HMO hundreds of dollars a month to "maintenance" an enrollee's health. But how can the HMO provide maintenance or preventative care (such as immunizations, mammograms, etc.), unless it sees the enrollee and establishes a health benchmark on the person?

My legislation is designed to ensure that HMOs really do maintain people's health. By scheduling an appointment and the collection of basic health data, the HMO can truly begin to provide managed care health. It can determine whether the person is a smoker, overweight has high cholesterol, is diabetic, is facing glaucoma, etc. Once these benchmarks have been established, the HMO can begin the counseling or the other services needed to "maintain" or improve health—thus fulfilling the promise of managed care.

The November 5, 1997 issue of the *Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA)* contains an article, "The Relationship Between Patient Income and Physical Health Behaviors," which states, "Although unhealthy behaviors were common among all income groups, physician discussion of health risk behaviors fell far short of the universal risk assessment and discussion recommended by the US Preventive Services Task Force. We conclude that the prevalence of physician discussion of health risk behaviors needs to be improved."

If physicians would do more to counsel their patients especially the lower income, these individuals could receive adequate and informative health care advice. As the *JAMA* article said, "Physicians also need to be more vigilant in properly identifying and counseling low-income patients at risk. Increasing the prevalence of physician discussion of health risk behaviors could greatly affect productivity, quality of life, mortality, and health costs in the United States. If the nation is truly interested in health improvement, a multifaceted approach is required to diminish the social gradients in health related to education, income, housing and opportunity, including a more effective national system for preventive services (Papaniolaou tests, breast examinations, immunizations) as well as improved discussion of health risk behaviors."

For instance in the case of smoking the *JAMA* article states: "Our data indicate that 49% of all patients with whom behavioral discussions occur attempt to cut down or quit smoking based on their physicians' advice and 49% of those who report attempting to change behavior no longer smoke. . . increasing the prevalence of physician discussion of smoking by 50% would result in a 6% decrease in the prevalence of smoking. Based on mortality and cost estimates of smoking, this reduction in smoking could potentially result in 24,000 annual deaths delayed and a \$3 billion annual cost savings to our society."

The December 3, 1997 issue of *JAMA*, contains an article, "Cost-effectiveness of the Clinical Practice Recommendations in the AHCPR Guideline for Smoking Cessation," which states that "Tobacco use has been

cited as the chief avoidable cause of death in the United States, responsible for more than 420,000 deaths annually. Despite this, physicians and other practitioners fail to assess and counsel smokers consistently and effectively." Again, an HMO would be the ideal setting to help a person stop smoking, but they can't do it if they don't see the patient—and that's why we need H.R. 337.

As we start to pay HMOs thousands of dollars a year for maintaining health, let's make sure that they at least see the individual and do something to earn these payments. If the premise of managed care is correct, then H.R. 337's early profiling and subsequent counseling will save the HMOs money in the long run by avoiding future expensive acute care services.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ORANGE  
COUNTY SCHOOL OF THE CULINARY ARTS

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a remarkable culinary school that was recently established in Orange County, CA, the Orange County School of Culinary Arts.

The school is sponsored by the Regional Occupation Program (ROP) of North Orange County. ROP is responsible for rehabilitating and re-training underprivileged and unemployed citizens and high school students to compete and succeed in a competitive work environment.

The Orange County School of Culinary Arts offers a wide variety of culinary classes that is as good, if not better, than that of the larger culinary institutes in America. While the cost of tuition at one of the big three Culinary Arts schools often exceeds \$27,000 per year, a course at the Orange County School of the Culinary Arts costs \$40 per class, a \$65 uniform fee and the cost of the food that is prepared and consumed.

There is currently a shortage of professionally trained chefs in the United States by 2 million. By the turn of the century, this number is expected to increase dramatically with the expansion of the cruise industry and the resort business throughout the United States. In Orange County alone, there are 8 positions available for every qualified applicant, and existing programs have not been filling the void.

The community has already flocked to the program. Almost 500 students have already enrolled when the student body was only projected to be 120 students. The courses range from beginner and advanced levels of preparation for a variety of foods, to restaurant management, nutrition, and sanitation. All courses are instructed by chefs with an extensive training in internationally-renown culinary academies and working backgrounds from the finest resorts and cruise ships around the world.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

I would like to recognize the Orange County School of Culinary Arts as a benchmark for other programs to follow. This program will not only alleviate the shortage of professionally-trained chefs, it will open a world of opportunities to neighboring citizens. From now on, a student can now pay for a professional training equal to those of the finest academies for a fraction of the cost. The Orange County School of Culinary Arts stands before us as a shining example of success for other communities to follow in the coming years.

A CENTURY OF EXCELLENCE—THE  
YORK COUNTY CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE TURNS 100

**HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, January 13, 1997 marked the 100th anniversary of one of south central Pennsylvania's most important and prolific organizations. Originally established in 1898 as the York Merchant's Association, the York County Chamber of Commerce has continued to faithfully carry out its mission to expand economic opportunities for commercial, mercantile, and industrial companies while enhancing accessibility to area products.

York County has benefitted immeasurably from the existence and activity of the Chamber. Ranging from the \$1.5 million raised by the Chamber in 1925 to connect the neighboring communities in Lancaster County via the Wrightsville Bridge, to the development of a communications link between Chamber members and worldwide customers via the Internet, the Chamber has always been working to bring people together in the best interest of our community. They have succeeded over and over again in making York a better place to live.

But York is not the only beneficiary of the Chamber's efforts. During its early years, the York County Chamber of Commerce helped lead the national effort to recognize and promote business interests by becoming the eighth charter member of the nearly formed Chamber of Commerce of the United States in 1908. This grassroots leadership has not only helped to propel the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to the prominent place it holds today as one of the top voices for the business industry, but also to place the York Chamber among the top 10 percent of chambers nationwide.

Despite a few changes in name and location, the York County Chamber of Commerce has remained the guiding force for local businesses for 100 years. That is why we should take the time to recognize this important milestone in the history of York County and its business community. Without their efforts, York County would not have achieved the level of prosperity we enjoy today. I am pleased to associate myself with this important organization and join them as they celebrate their centennial.

IMPROVING MEDICARE QUALITY—  
SAVING MEDICARE LIVES: SUP-  
PORT FOR H.R. 2726

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the AARP Public Policy Institute issued a paper in December of 1996 by Dr. David Nash, entitled "Reforming Medicare: Strategies for Higher Quality, Lower Cost Care." It is an excellent paper on a number of ways to improve and extend the life of Medicare.

One proposal in Dr. Nash's paper is the "centers of excellence" concept, in which Medicare can contract with certain hospitals to provide a high volume of complicated procedures in exchange for a lower global payment. The results of Medicare's "demonstrations" of this concept shows that Medicare can save money while increasing quality for beneficiaries.

Following is Dr. Nash's discussions of the Heart Bypass Center Demonstration. The Administration had proposed legislation in the FY 97 Budget Reconciliation bill to implement this type of proposal nationwide. The House passed the proposal, but it was dropped in Conference. I hope that Congress will revisit this issue in 1998 and enact this concept.

It is not just a matter of dollar—it is a matter of lives.

Medicare, like most private insurance, has historically paid hospitals and doctors separately. Since 1983 with the introduction of the Prospective Payment System (PPS), Medicare has paid hospitals a fixed price for most care based on the patient's diagnosis. Doctors, whose medical decisions still affect nearly 80 percent of hospital costs, continue to be reimburse on a fee-for-service basis that rewards them for doing more, not less.

The Medicare participating Heart Bypass Center Demonstration project is an experimental project implemented by Medicare in early 1992. Two primary events drove the planning for this important demonstration project: namely, the results of numerous studies showing a strong correlation between relatively higher volume, lower cost, and better outcomes in open heart surgery services, and unsolicited proposals from individual hospitals willing to provide coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) services for a fixed price.

This demonstration project was implemented to answer four basic questions: 1) Is it possible to establish a managed care system with Medicare Part A and Part B payments combined, including all pass throughs for capital, medical education, etc., and pay a single fee to the hospital for treating patients? 2) Would it be possible to decrease the Medicare program's expenditures on CABG surgery while maintaining or improving quality? 3) What is the true relationship between volume and quality in CABG surgery, and can hospital procedure volume be increased without decreasing the level of appropriateness? and 4) What is involved at a hospital operational level—can such a program be sustained over a period of time without draining financial resources and dragging the organization down?

Preliminary results evaluating the Medicare participating Heart Bypass Center Demonstration project, I believe, strongly sup-

port its immediate national expansion to appropriately realign the incentives between hospitals and their physicians. By creating a strong financial incentive to be more cost effective in their use of resources, hospitals and doctors will be able to implement the tools of continuous quality improvement, practice guidelines, critical pathways, and the nonpunitive feedback of information about performance. In a word, they will utilize many of the tools mentioned throughout the body of this report to improve quality and lower costs.

For example, the seven experimental heart surgery site institutions have reported numerous operational changes resulting in lower costs and improved quality as a result of the HCFA demonstration project. Quick transfers out of intensive care, shorter patient stays after surgery, fewer laboratory and radiology tests, and the use of care management and critical pathways, are some of the cost cutting measures being employed at each of the participating institutions. Expensive consultations with other physicians were also targets for cost saving. Participating institutions report a nearly 20 percent decrease in the use of consultation with no demonstrable changes in overall case outcomes. At four demonstration sites, doctors and administrators together are challenging long-standing patterns of care and scrutinizing the use of everything from \$5 sutures to intensive care unit beds at \$800 per day. At St. Joseph's Hospital, in Atlanta, Georgia, neurologists were charging between \$364 and \$1,676 for a neurologic consultation before the program began; now the hospital pays them a flat rate of \$371. In the post-operative period, physicians are removing particular chest drainage tubes in certain patients within 24 hours rather than waiting the customary 48 hours, a strategy that even may foster quicker healing. Physicians describe the demonstration project as making them rethink each step along the patient care continuum. If each step is not supportable on a scientific basis, and is not in the patient's best interest, it is removed, and, as a result, costs are reduced.

Of course, many managed care organizations and some specialty practices have often charged a global fee for procedures or for a specified time period of care such as one calendar year. A growing number of managed care companies have negotiated special package price deals for expensive or high-tech procedures including organ transplantation, maternity care, and cancer care. The Medicare program should proceed quickly with preliminary plans to expand the participating Heart Bypass Center Demonstration project and begin a "National Centers of Excellence" program on other high-cost, high-volume procedures. The literature is clear that practice makes perfect and an expansion of this program, which would realign incentives, reduce costs, and inevitably improve quality, ought to be implemented quickly.

Finally, consideration should be given to expanding the current prospective payment system to include outpatient care. Studies ought to be undertaken to link inpatient and outpatient claims for particular procedures and particular diagnoses such as congestive heart failure, pneumonia, diabetes and other high-cost, chronic illnesses. With the availability of improved outpatient case mix systems, HCFA has an opportunity to provide national leadership and use its evaluative capacity to realign incentives between doctors and hospitals.

RETIREMENT OF POLICE CHIEF  
RAY WROBLEWSKI

**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise before you today to pay tribute to one of the many fine law enforcement officers from the Eleventh District of Illinois. After 32 years of service to the community and local law enforcement, Beecher, Illinois Police Chief Ray Wroblewski has decided to retire from the force.

Thirty two years ago Chief Wroblewski started his career in law enforcement as a deputy in the Will County Sheriff's Office. After serving with the sheriff's office for over a year, Ray joined the Crete Police Department and served the citizens of Crete, Illinois as a patrolman for twelve years before moving on to the Beecher Police Department. Starting out as a patrolman in Beecher, Ray worked his way through the ranks to the position of Chief, where he helped make the Beecher Police Department one of the best law enforcement agencies in Illinois.

During his twenty years of service in Beecher, Chief Wroblewski implemented a number of new programs and techniques that made the streets safer for his fellow officers and the residents of Beecher. Chief Wroblewski ushered in a new age of technology at the Beecher Police Department with the installation of onboard computers in the Village patrol cars, while, returning the force to a Community Oriented Police Department that works side by side with local residents. Chief Wroblewski was also instrumental in the formation of the department's new bike patrol, which will further the goals of the community policing program.

Mr. Speaker, while Chief Wroblewski would say little has changed in Beecher over the last twenty years, I think all of the citizens of Beecher would agree that their community has changed, and for the better, thanks to the efforts and hard work of Chief Wroblewski. Respected by law enforcement officers throughout the State of Illinois, Chief Wroblewski's leadership, caring and ingenuity will be missed by the people of Beecher and the officers of the Beecher Police Department.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Wroblewski chose a career in law enforcement because he enjoyed helping people, and throughout his 32 years of service he did just that. I know I speak for all of my colleagues and the folks back home in Beecher when I say, thank you Chief Wroblewski for all your years of service, and best wishes in your retirement.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL AARON  
BANK

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Colonel Aaron Bank on his birthday. Colonel Bank is one of our great military leaders and one of our great Americans.

Colonel Bank helped found, organize and train the United States Army's elite Special Forces group which is known today as the Green Berets. He was hand-picked to organize and develop the Army's Special Forces division because of his depth of knowledge and experience in unconventional warfare.

Colonel Bank served his country through several wars. In 1942 he was recruited for the newly-formed Office of Strategic Services (OSS). In 1944, he parachuted as part of a three man team into occupied France to promote resistance there. While in France he sabotaged the Germans' efforts by blowing up railroad lines, bridges and electric networks. He gathered resistance fighters which had increased to 3,000 and turned back the Germans in a series of fire fights.

At the end of World War II, Colonel Bank was sent to train Vietnamese troops. In an extraordinary feat, Bank parachuted into Laos to search for missing prisoners of war. After serving in Vietnam he was sent to Europe again and assigned to Army counterintelligence to catch Soviet bloc agents. By 1952 he was formally designated commander of the 10th Special Forces Group, the Green Berets.

Throughout his career Colonel Bank has demonstrated his keen intelligence, his compassion and his patriotism. He has engendered the utmost respect for his fellow mankind. His devotion and love of country form the foundation upon which he has built his beliefs.

Colonel Bank was a hero yesterday and is a hero today. His bravery, his devotion to freedom and his love for his country fill us with pride and admiration. Happy birthday and best wishes!

THE EQUITABLE CHILD CARE  
RESOLUTION

**HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Equitable Child Care Resolution. The purpose of this concurrent resolution is two fold. First, to point out that 70% of families with preschool children do not pay for child care. Second, that any quality child care proposal should also provide financial relief to families where there is an at-home parent.

Many of the child care proposals that are garnering attention merely expand commercial child care and do not also address the needs of the vast majority (70%) of families who struggle to provide child care at home or in the home of a close relative or neighbor.

The 70% of families who come up with creative solutions for their child care needs should not be ignored. Many of these families sacrifice a full-time income. We should also focus on providing them with financial relief.

As we debate the merits and problems of various child care proposals, this resolution will serve to remind us that any quality child care initiative should provide assistance to parents regardless of how those parents choose to care for their children, be it by an at-home parent, grandmother, uncle, close neighbor, or child care center. No child care proposal that discriminates against families based on their particular choice of child care should be actively considered.

I hope my colleagues will join me in making sure that at-home parents will not be forgotten in the child care debate. And, I urge my colleagues to not forget the 70% of American families who provide child care in the home, by supporting the Equitable Child Care Resolution.

AHCPR'S STUDY SUPPORTS PETE  
STARK'S BILL

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I introduced H.R. 2726 which directs the Secretary to contract with certain hospitals for the provision of certain surgical procedures and related services under the Medicare Program. The Agency for Health Care Policy and Research's (AHCPR) October 1997 article, "Study Reaffirms Link Between Angioplasty Outcomes and Hospital and Physician Experience," adds to the list of reasons why the bill should become law.

The article states that: "In the largest study of its kind to date, researchers have once again found that elderly patients undergoing coronary angioplasty are well advised to have the procedure done in hospitals that perform 200 or more angioplasties each year and by physicians who perform 75 or more angioplasties each year. These patients suffer fewer complications and deaths than similar patients who undergo angioplasties at hospitals and physicians who perform the procedure less often"

The article confirms that Medicare contracting with certain high volume, high quality hospitals will save money and deliver better health care. One could say it is a two-for-one: saves money while improving quality.

Mr. Speaker, the sooner we pass H.R. 2726, the sooner we start saving lives and saving dollars.

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE:  
CALUMET CITY LODGE NO. 1

**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and dedication of the Fraternal Order of Police, Calumet City Lodge No. 1. This lodge was founded on November 29th, 1937 and on Tuesday, January 13th 1998 they celebrated their 60th Anniversary.

The Calumet City Lodge was the first Lodge organized in Illinois. Sixty years ago, there were 10 members. Today this organization boasts 78 members on active duty and 35 members who have retired from the police force. In fact, the oldest active member in the country of the Fraternal Order of Police organization, George Perniciaro, is a member of the Calumet City Lodge.

FOP Calumet City Lodge No. 1 has been dedicated to the community it serves in many ways. They sponsor a food and toy program for needy families in Calumet City during the holidays each year. They sponsor several Little League and Civic League Baseball teams.

The Calumet City Lodge makes a donation each year to the Easter Seals Foundation, the national charity for the Fraternal Order of Police. They make donations to the Good Hope School, a trade school for developmentally disabled children.

As is tradition with many police organizations, the Calumet City FOP takes care of their own. When a police officer is killed in the line of duty, the Lodge provides for the needs of their surviving family. Donations are also made to the state and national Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) program.

Also on January 13, 1998, the Fraternal Order of Police, Calumet City Lodge No. 1 honored those who have recently retired from the police. Kelly Matthews served the residents of Calumet City for 24 years from 1973 to 1997. Terrence McDermott served the residents of Calumet City for 26 years from 1971 to 1997. We thank these two dedicated public servants for their fearless service to this community.

Finally, on January 13, 1997 the Fraternal Order of Police, Calumet City Lodge No. 1 installed new officers to preside over this organization. We thank the retiring officers for their service and call upon the new directors to preserve the good name of this organization whose motto is "We serve with Pride."

IN HONOR OF THELMA GAMMELL  
ON HER 102ND BIRTHDAY

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor a wonderful person and a great American, on her 102nd birthday—Thelma Gammell.

Thelma is a joy to know. Perky, humorous, and filled with the spirit of life. She was born in Miller, South Dakota, and on October 9, 1895. Life was very different then. The United States, itself, was just over 100 years old. Her ancestors had migrated from Wales in 1776, during the Revolutionary War.

Life was very difficult and often hard. Thelma, however, grew up in a family that had good values. They worked hard and they lived the best they could with what they had. Her childhood was filled with horseback riding, dolls and "kitten playmates." The winters on the prairie were long and cold, but Thelma enjoyed playing in the snowdrifts with her sister.

In 1912 Thelma met with her husband, John Gammell. They lived in several states including North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming and Nebraska. They had a son and a daughter who were both born in Wyoming.

In 1937 the Gammells moved to Laguna Beach, California, where John worked as a carpenter and Thelma worked as a pottery designer. After retirement, the Gammells traveled, visiting friends in the Midwest. After her husband passed away in 1967, Thelma became active as a volunteer for the Santa Ana Senior Center and has continued her dedicated service for over 12 years.

Surely her secret to a long life must be her warm and outgoing personality and her joy of life. For Thelma Gammell life had been filled with many wonderful memories. All who know Thelma have been charmed by her presence.

Happy birthday and best wishes for a wonderful year.

## PROTECTION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN THE WORKPLACE

**HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce H.R. 2948, legislation that restores real protections to the religious convictions of men and women in the workplace. The Workplace Religious Freedom Act (WRFA) would amend Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act to require employers to make reasonable accommodation for an employee's religious observance or practice unless doing so would impose an undue hardship on the employer. Currently, the courts interpret Title VII to require reasonable accommodation of religious practices only where an employer would not "bear more than a de minimis cost."

This bill is a companion to S. 1124, which was introduced by Senators JOHN KERRY (D-MA) and DAN COATS (R-IN), with an ideologically diverse group of cosponsors.

The version of the WRFA that I introduce today is intended to reflect my concern with the instances of employers unreasonably refusing to accommodate the religious needs of workers. This is not a common problem, but it is still a serious one. This bill is intended as a starting point, and I do not necessarily endorse all of its provisions. I wish to ensure that businesses are not unduly burdened, while ensuring that workers' rights are amply protected. I hope my introduction of this bill will foster a dialogue between the business and religious communities that achieves a bill acceptable to all.

The bill is endorsed by a wide range of organizations including: American Jewish Committee, Baptist Joint Committee, Christian Legal Society, United Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church (USA), Southern Baptist Convention, Traditional Values Coalition, Seventh-day Adventists, National Association of Evangelicals, National Council of the Churches of Christ, National Sikh Center, and Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations. A complete list of the Coalition For Religious Freedom In The Workplace is attached for the record.

I look forward to a healthy debate over this legislation and its ultimate passage in a form which fairly balances the legitimate needs of both employees and employers.

### COALITION FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN THE WORKPLACE

Agudath Israel of America; American Jewish Committee; American Jewish Congress; Americans for Democratic Action; Anti-Defamation League; Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs; Center for Jewish and Christian Values; Central Conference of American Rabbis; Christian Legal Society; Church of Scientology International; Council on Religious Freedom; General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; Guru Gobind Singh Foundation; Hadassah-WZOA; International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists; and Jewish Council for Public Affairs.

National Association of Evangelicals; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; National Council of Jewish Women;

National Jewish Coalition; National Jewish Coalition; National Jewish Democratic Council; National Sikh Center; North American Council for Muslim Women; People for the American Way; Presbyterian Church (USA), Washington Office; Rabbinical Council of America; Southern Baptist Convention Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission; Traditional Values Coalition; Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations; United Church of Christ Office for Church in Society; United Methodist Church General Board on Church and Society; and United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

## WHY PHYSICIAN REFERRAL LAWS ARE IMPORTANT

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the January 9th *Federal Register* contains the regulations implementing the 1993 Physician Referral laws, designed to reduce or eliminate the incentives for doctors to over-refer patients to services in which the doctor has a financial relationship.

Study after study after study has shown that when doctors have such a financial relationship, they tend to order more services and more expensive services. The Physician Referral laws try to stop this form of fraud, waste, and abuse.

Members may hear complaints about the law and regulations from some physicians. Following is a portion of an *amicus* brief filed in the case of *Thompson v. Columbia/HCA* December 12, 1996 by three of America's most distinguished and illustrious physicians—Dr. Arnold Relman, Dr. C. Everett Koop, and the late Dr. James S. Todd, former Executive Vice President of the American Medical Association. The *amicus* explains eloquently why this law is needed to help ensure the trust of the American people in their physician community.

I hope Members will keep in mind the important ethical and moral issues described by these three outstanding doctors.

### STATEMENT OF INTEREST

*Amicus*, Arnold S. Relman, M.D., is Professor Emeritus of Medicine and of Social Medicine at the Harvard Medical School, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Dr. Relman is also the Editor in Chief Emeritus of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the official organ of the Massachusetts Medical Society, which has been published continuously since 1812. For more than fifteen years, Dr. Relman has written extensively on the ethical, social, and practical implications of physician self-referral, compensation, and ownership arrangements of the type described in the present Complaint.

*Amicus*, C. Everett Koop, M.D., served as the United States Surgeon General under Presidents Reagan and Bush from 1981 to 1989. After the completion of his government service, General Koop has maintained an active role in the national debate on healthcare policies, priorities, and perspectives.

*Amicus*, James S. Todd, M.D., recently retired as Executive Vice President, American Medical Association.

Doctors Relman, Koop, and Todd have no personal financial interest in this litigation. Their desire to participate as *amici curiae*

arises instead from their deeply felt concern for the implications that physician self-referral and compensation arrangements may have on the delivery of medical services to the American people and the ethical issues arising from those arrangements. *Amici* steadfastly maintain that a physician's economic self interest must remain subordinate to his or her primary, unalloyed obligation as a patient's trusted advisor, agent, and healer to place the patient's interests above all others.

The self-referral and compensation arrangements at issue in this case threaten to erode traditional medical ethics, undermine public trust, and create irreconcilable conflicts of interest at a time when the public at large will be ill-served thereby. They offer a unique perspective on the consequences to physicians, their patients, and the system of healthcare in this country that are threatened by self-referral and compensation arrangements such as those described in this suit.

#### SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT

The fundamental ethical precept, upon which the system of medical practice has been founded, is that the patient's interests must take precedence over all other considerations, and certainly, over any financial or other personal interests of the patient's physician. Patients in need of medical care turn to their physicians to act as their agent in deciding what is needed. The patient must trust and depend upon the physician to serve only the patient's interest above all others.

The self-referral and physician compensation arrangements described in the United States' Complaint threaten to undermine this fundamental principle of medical ethics. Doctors who associate themselves with healthcare corporations as employees, contractors, or limited partners with financial ties to healthcare businesses have an unavoidable conflict of interest. The type of business arrangements described in the Complaint threaten to obscure the separation between business and professional aims. No longer are physicians the trustees solely for their patients' interests; they become in addition agents for a corporate enterprise which regards patients as customers. Economic incentives to withhold services, to overuse them, or to choose particular medical products are inconsistent with the duty of the physician to act as an unselfish trustee and agent for the patient.

Both the Medicare Anti-Fraud and Abuse Act and the Stark Acts are bulwarks against the continued erosion of the physician's fiduciary obligation in the face of increasing economic temptation. Physicians cannot ethically serve in the capacity of their patients' fiduciary or representative in selecting services offered by the healthcare industry, where they also have the type of financial interests in that industry as described in the United States' Complaint.

Self-referral has a demonstrable practical dimension beyond its ethical aspects. A growing body of evidence reveals that self-referral often leads to the overuse of services and excessive costs. Statistical studies buttress the commonsense conclusion that self-referral and compensation arrangements can result in the inappropriate utilization of services for the physician's economic benefit. To the extent that those services are submitted and paid under Medicare, they are also to the United States' detriment.

#### I. SELF-REFERRAL UNDERMINES THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF MEDICAL ETHICS

*Amici* do not profess to have personal knowledge of the allegations in the instant complaint describing a variety of financial relationships between defendants below and the physicians, who have allegedly accepted

the benefits of those arrangements. Those allegations are accepted as true, in the particular procedural context of this appeal. The Complaint alleges that, to induce referrals of Medicare and other patients, physicians, in a position to make referrals to the defendant healthcare providers were:

(a) offered a preferential opportunity not available to the general public to obtain equity interests in defendants' healthcare operations;

(b) offered loans with which to finance their capital investments in those equity interests;

(c) paid money, under the guise of "consultation fees" or similar payments to guarantee the physicians' capital investment in those equity interests on a risk-free basis;

(d) paid "consultation fees", "rent" or other monies to induce physicians to practice and refer patients to particular hospitals or facilities;

(e) given payments based on the amount of business provided by the physician;

(f) provided free or reduced rate rents for office space;

(g) provided free or reduced-rate vacations, hunting trips, fishing trips, or, other similar recreational opportunities;

(h) provided with free or reduced-cost opportunities for additional medical training;

(i) provided income guarantees; and

(j) granted preferred superior or exclusive rights to perform procedures in particular fields of practice.

This conduct is alleged to have violated both the Medicare Anti-Fraud and Abuse Act and the self-referral statutes known as the Stark Act. The prohibitions of the Stark Act are rather clear: where a physician has a statutorily defined investment or ownership interest in, or a compensation arrangement with, an entity, the physician may not refer Medicare patients to that entity, which in turn may not present or receive payment for any Medicare claims for patients so referred.

The policies and values implicated by the type of conduct prohibited under the Stark Act are revealed in the very title of the law as originally submitted by Representative Fortney "Pete" Stark: the House bill was entitled the "Ethics In Patient Referrals Act." Representative Stark chose his title well, for fundamental principles of medical ethics are unavoidably implicated by self-referral and remuneration arrangements that can tempt physicians to consider their own income above their patients' medical needs and to tap third-party payors (including the government) for excessive or unnecessary costs.

#### A. Patient Loyalty is the Most Fundamental Ethical Obligation

From its earliest origins, the profession of medicine has steadfastly held that physicians' responsibility to their patients takes precedence over their own economic interests. Thus the oath of Hippocrates enjoins physicians to serve only "for the benefit of sick. . . ." In modern times this theme has figured prominently in many medical codes of ethics. The international code of the World Medical Organization, for example, says that "a doctor must practice his profession uninfluenced by motives of profit." The American Medical Association declared in 1957, in its newly revised Principles of Medical Ethics, that "the principal objective of the medical profession is to render service to humanity." It went on to say, "in the practice of medicine a physician should limit the source of his professional income to medical services actually rendered by him, or under his supervision, to his patients."

The practice of medicine is based on this special relation between the doctor and patient. In this way, medical care is different

from ordinary commercial transactions. Patients may choose their doctors, their hospitals, or the kind of insurance coverage they want, but when they need medical care, the physician acts as their agent in deciding what is needed. The patient, in turn, is virtually totally dependent upon the physician's decision, and so must trust the physician to do the right thing.

This trust, which physicians are sworn to honor, is the essence of the relationship between doctor and patient. The patient's interest takes precedence over all other considerations, and certainly, over any financial or other personal interests of the physician. The American Medical Association has been very firm and explicit on this last point. The 1981 edition of the *Opinions and Reports of the Judicial Council of the AMA* unambiguously says: "under no circumstances may the physician place his own financial interest above the welfare of his patient. The prime objective of the medical profession is to render service to humanity. Reward or financial gain is a subordinate consideration."

Physicians are parties to a social contract, not merely a business contract. Physicians are not vendors, and are not merely free economic agents in a free market. Society has given physicians a licensed monopoly to practice their profession protected in large part against competition from other would-be dispensers of health services. Physicians enjoy independence and the authority to regulate themselves and set their own standards. Much of their professional training is subsidized. Virtually all the information and technology they need to practice their profession has been produced at public expense. Those physicians who practice in hospitals are given without charge the essential facilities and instruments they need to take care of their patients. Most of all, physicians have the priceless privilege of enjoying their patients' trust and playing a critical part in their lives when they most need help. All this physicians are given in exchange for the commitment to serve their patients' interests first of all and to do the very best they can.

#### B. Economic Pressures Arising From the Transformation of the Medical Practice Environment

Although the relation between doctor and patient is not in essence a market place transaction, it certainly can be influenced by economic considerations and by the financial and organizational arrangements through which medical care is provided. Until recently, the dominant arrangement was fee-for-service sole or small partnership private practice.

Until the past decade or two, this system for physician compensation has enjoyed the general confidence and support of the American public. There were several reasons for this. First, the behavior of most doctors was influenced by the ethical code of organized medicine, which clearly said that the whole system was based on the doctor's commitment to the patient's interests. Moreover, it was unethical for the doctor to do anything that was unnecessary. Until recently, there were few opportunities for physicians to do anything that was unnecessary. Until 40 or 50 years ago, the great majority of doctors in practice in this country were primary care givers, who had only a modest and inexpensive array of procedures and remedies. There was little for the physician to do beyond examining, counseling, and comforting. When specialists were used, the referrals usually came from the primary care physician, so self-referral by specialists was not a problem. Finally, until recently, doctors had more patients than they could handle. They had no incentive to do more than was necessary for any patient because there were

plenty of patients available and much work to do. As long as physicians were in relatively short supply, there was no pressure on them to offer their patients more than essential services.

Over the past fifty years, the system of medical practice in this country has irrevocably changed, putting new stresses on the previously simple satisfactory relationship between doctor and patient. One of the first and most important developments was the rise of specialism with a concomitant increase in the relative and absolute number of specialists. This, in turn, has led to the fragmentation of medical care and to less personal commitment by physicians to patients. We have changed from a system that had over 70% primary care physicians to one that has nearly 70% specialists.

Another major force that has changed the nature of the doctor-patient relation is the explosive development of medical technology. There are now a vastly increased number of things that doctors can do for patients—many more tests, many more diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, and many more identifiable, billable items to be reimbursed by the third-party payors. The increase in specialization and technological sophistication has itself raised the price of services and made the economic rewards of medicine far greater than before. With third-party payors, either medical insurers or the government, available to pay the bills, physicians have powerful economic incentives to recruit patients and provide expensive services. The multitude of tests and procedures now available provide lucrative opportunities for extra income, which in turn inevitably encourages an entrepreneurial approach to medical practice and overuse of services.

Another major factor in the transformation of the system has been the appearance of investor-owned healthcare businesses. Attracted by opportunities for profit resulting from the expansion of private and public health insurance, these new businesses (which have been called the "medical-industrial complex") have built and operated chains of hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, diagnostic laboratories, and many other kinds of health facilities. They prospered by encouraging physicians to use their facilities during an era when almost all medical services were paid for on a fee-for-service basis. This is still largely true for physicians' services under Medicare.

It must therefore be recognized that healthcare is becoming a business. Pressures from insurers and third-party payors for containment of costs, the growing presence of investor-owned healthcare corporations, and competition for market share among the country's overbuilt and underused hospitals are transforming the American healthcare system into an industry. In that environment, many doctors have associated themselves with healthcare corporations as employees, contractors, and limited partners.

#### C. Self-Referral Undermines The Physician's Fiduciary Responsibilities

Whether investors, employees, contractors, or limited partners, doctors with financial ties to healthcare businesses have a conflict of interest. And therein lies the ethical quandary, which Representative Stark sought to address in the Ethics in Patient Referrals Act: economic imperatives may weaken what should be a strong fiduciary relationship between doctor and patient. A physician cannot easily serve his patients as trusted counselor and agent when he has economic ties to profit-seeking businesses that regard those patients as customers. In entering into these and similar business arrangements, physicians are trading on their pa-

tients' trust. The kind and character of financial arrangements, incentives, and business deals described in the present Complaint clearly serve the economic interests of physicians and owners. Whether they also serve the best interests of patients is not so clear. Whether they violate the Medicare Anti-Fraud and Abuse Act or the Stark Act prohibitions against payment of remuneration for the referral of Medicare or Medicaid patients or for the purchase of supplies for these patients is beyond the purview of this brief; however, at a minimum these legal concerns imply that the government recognizes the potential risk to the public interest when physicians make deals with businesses.

The type of business arrangements described in the Complaint take physicians into uncharted waters, where conflicts of interest abound and the separation between business and professional aims is obscured. No longer are physicians the trustees solely for their patients' interests; they become in addition agents for a corporate enterprise which regards patients as customers. Economic incentives to withhold services, to overuse them, or to choose particular medical products are inconsistent with the duty of the physician to act as an unselfish trustee and agent for the patient.

The tension between economics and ethics has been reflected in the deliberations of the American Medical Association. In December, 1991, the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs of the AMA advised physicians to avoid self-referral, except where there is a demonstrated need in the community for the facility and alternative financing is not available. While acknowledging the mounting evidence of excessive costs and rates of use in jointly owned for-profit facilities, the Council emphasized its primary concern for the integrity of the profession. The following passage from the report expresses its essential message: "At the heart of the Council's view of this issue is its conviction that, however others may see the profession, physicians are not simply business people with high standards. Physicians are engaged in the special calling of healing, and, in that calling, they are the fiduciaries of their patients. They have different and higher duties than even the most ethical business person. \* \* \* There are some activities involving their patients that physicians should avoid whether or not there is evidence of abuse."

This is, of course, the central point about fiduciary responsibility: people in important positions of trust should not put themselves in situations that inevitably raise questions about their motives and priorities, regardless of whether they actually behave in accordance with the trust. Even though physicians may believe they are doing what is best for the patient, there will still be the appearance of conflicting interests with a resulting erosion of public confidence in the physicians' motivation, a confidence that has unfortunately already been weakened by a growing public opinion that doctors are too interested in money and charge too much. Since trust is vital to good care, these public perceptions could lead to a deterioration in the quality of care as well as a change in the public's attitude toward the medical profession.

Both the Medicare Anti-Fraud and Abuse Act and the Stark Acts are bulwarks against the continued erosion of the physician's fiduciary obligation in the face of increasing economic temptation. The public gives doctors special advantages and privileges in exchange for their commitments to put the public's interests ahead of any personal economic gain. The involvement of practicing physicians accepting compensation for the referral of patients raises serious doubts about this commitment. Physicians should

be fiduciaries or representatives for their patients in evaluating and selecting the services offered by the healthcare industry. They cannot ethically serve in that capacity where they also have the type of financial interests in that industry as described in the United States' Complaint.

#### II. SELF-REFERRAL LEADS TO OVERUSE OF SERVICES AND EXCESSIVE COST

Self-referral has a demonstrable practical dimension beyond its ethical aspects. A growing body of evidence reveals that when physicians are paid on a fee-for-service basis self-referral leads to the overuse of services and excessive costs. A 1992 study evaluated the effects of self-referral arrangements in radiation therapy facilities in Florida, where at least 40% of all practicing physicians were involved in some kind of self-referral. That study found that the frequency and costs of radiation therapy at such centers were 40% to 60% higher in Florida than in the rest of the United States, where only 7% of the facilities were joint ventures. Another 1992 study, using information collected by the Florida Healthcare Cost Containment Board, found that visits per patient were 39% to 45% higher in physical therapy centers owned by referring physicians and that such facilities had 30% to 40% higher revenues. The study also found that licensed therapists in non-physician owned centers spent about 60% more time per visit treating patients than those in physician-owned centers.

A California study in 1992 compared physicians who referred patients to facilities in which they had ownership interests to other physicians. Physician-owners were found to have referred patients for physical therapy 2.3 times as often as others. Of the MRI scans requested by physician owners, 38% were found to be medically unnecessary, as compared with 28% by other physicians. Two studies focusing on diagnostic imaging services identified the same patterns. Physicians who owned imaging systems were found to have used diagnostic imaging in the treatment of elderly patients significantly more often than other physicians while generating 1.6 to 6.2 times higher average imaging charges per session of medical care. An earlier study found that self-referring physicians generally used imaging examinations at least four times more often than other physicians, with the charges for self-referred imaging usually being higher. Earliest of all was the 1989 study conducted under the auspices of the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services, which found that Medicare patients of doctors who had financial interests in clinical laboratories received 45% more laboratory services than Medicare patients generally.

None of this evidence is particularly surprising; it merely confirms that when physicians are paid on a fee-for-service basis, the lure of economic gain is directly correlated to the use of medical services. At a minimum, then, self-referral adds to the cost of medical care; more ominously, it may increase patient risk and diminish quality of patient care. Both the individual interests of patients, and the wider interests of the tax paying public, are best served by stringent enforcement of the prohibitions against self-referral embodied in the Medicare Anti-Fraud and Abuse Act and the Stark laws.

#### III. CONCLUSION

*Amici* therefore submit this brief in support of reversal of the district court's judgment of dismissal.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
JOHN E. MOSS

**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a former member of this body, my mentor and predecessor in this House, The Honorable John E. Moss. As Congressman Moss is memorialized today in the city which he represented so well, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting his remarkable career in public service.

Throughout the twenty-six years he represented the Sacramento area in this House, he served with distinction as an effective and compassionate champion for his constituents. As a skillful legislator, he played a key role in shaping and passing some of this century's great legislative achievements, all the while keeping the interests of his district at the forefront of his concerns.

Born in the state of Utah in 1915, John Moss' family moved to Sacramento, California in 1923. There, he went to school and married Jean Kueny in 1935. The couple would have two daughters. After serving in the Second World War, Congressman Moss was a businessman, but he soon heard the call to serve in the public sector and he won a seat in the California State Assembly in 1948.

Just four years thereafter, at the age of thirty-three, John Emerson Moss was elected to the House of Representatives, a position he would fulfill admirably for the next twenty-six years. One of Congressman Moss' first orders of business was to persuade then-President Harry S. Truman to approve the construction of a dam along the American River at the town of Folsom, just east of Sacramento. In a sign of his political prowess, Congressman Moss was able to successfully lobby the White House to support this important project.

His other early achievements included winning federal support for the Sacramento Airport and the surrounding military bases. John Moss steadfastly represented and served as an advocate for a great cross-section of Californians living in Sacramento, regardless of party affiliation or political persuasion. Yet his commitment to the needs of his district never overwhelmed his core devotion to civil and human rights, and to truth in government.

From 1955 until 1966, John Moss devoted much of his time in this House to winning passage of the Freedom of Information Act. His crusade to create and enact a law which would allow for a more open, understanding, and responsible government was perhaps his greatest achievement in Congress and would earn him the title of "Father of the Freedom of Information Act."

By the early 1970s, he had risen to the leadership of the House, serving as high as deputy majority whip under both Congressmen Carl Albert and Hale Boggs. At this same time, as the Watergate saga began to unfold and the U.S. involvement in Vietnam wound down, John Moss served as one of the great consciences of the House, always calling for greater government accountability and responsiveness to the concerns of the people.

As his career concluded in 1979, Congressman Moss could look back and see a great string of legislative and political achievements:

The 1970 Federal Clean Air Act, the creation of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and reform of the nation's anti-monopoly laws, to name but a few.

Mr. Speaker, since Congressman Moss' passing, tributes have come forth from President Bill Clinton, former President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter, and countless other prominent Americans and Sacramentans. His passion and drive in defending the First Amendment, advocating consumer and environmental protection, and looking after the needs of his Sacramento constituency has cemented his legacy as one of this century's great legislative leaders. On a personal note, as my friend and mentor is eulogized today, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in honoring this great and caring husband, father, and legislator.

RECOGNIZING THE CHANNAHON  
PARK DISTRICT

**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize the Channahon Park District in Channahon, Illinois for winning the 1997 National Gold Medal Award. This award acknowledges excellence in parks and recreation administration for agencies serving populations of less than 20,000.

What makes this award special Mr. Speaker, is the fact that the judges for the National Gold Medal Award are park officials from throughout the nation who consider agency programs, quality of facilities, future planning and community involvement in selecting award winners. So as you can see Mr. Speaker, this is an award that is not only judged by peers in the field, but, by some of the most respected park administrators from around the country.

The Channahon Park District has had a proud history of community service over the last 25 years. Growing out of a volunteer effort of local residents, the Channahon Park District and its staff are a national model for excellence in recreation, environment, and community programs.

The residents of Channahon and the entire Eleventh Congressional District have always enjoyed the fine programs and facilities maintained by Channahon Park District's award winning team. From board members and staff, right down to part time volunteers, the Channahon Park District team understands the meaning of community, and extends its programs to every sector of the local population.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the hard work of the men and women of the Channahon Park District, and I know I speak for all of the residents of the Village of Channahon when I say congratulations on winning this award and job well done.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE SOUTH

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Steve South, the outgoing President of the National City Chamber of Commerce in National City, California, located in my Congressional District. Mr. South, the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of EDCO Disposal Corporation, a waste collection and recycling company, served as President of the National City Chamber Board of Directors during 1997.

During that year, his leadership led to many successful accomplishments and many "firsts" for the Chamber. The first New Member Orientations were established, and a new "Business Forum" section of the Chamber newsletter was implemented. His leadership also spearheaded new levels of membership in the Chamber. Corporate, student and friendship levels were established to broaden the scope of the Chamber's ability to recruit new members.

Also for the first time in Chamber history, an ad hoc Strategic Planning Committee was established to begin developing a vision for the Chamber of Commerce. The goals of this committee are to update the Chamber's mission and to plan the direction of the Chamber and the economic development of National City into the 21st Century.

Mr. South initiated a student and parent recognition program with the National School District. A campaign was also established to promote the positive assets of National City by developing a promotional media kit, "Good Attributes in National City: Community, People, Business and Schools." Mr. South also supported the building of coalitions with other community groups and initiated the Chamber's support of the National City Collaborative and the National City Boys and Girls Club. His commitment to a safer National City was demonstrated by his support of the establishment of the Senior Volunteer Patrol, a partnership between the City of National City and the Chamber of Commerce.

In these and many other ways, Steve South has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for the residents of his city. His dedication is to be admired, and I am pleased to recognize his contributions to the entire community of National City with these remarks in the U.S. House of Representatives.

COMMENDING THE AMERICAN  
HEART ASSOCIATION

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this year we will not only commemorate the month of February as American Heart Month, but we will also celebrate the 50th anniversary of the American Heart Association as a national voluntary health agency.

Every 34 seconds, someone in our country dies of cardiovascular disease or stroke. Cardiovascular disease, the leading killer of Americans, claims as many lives as all other



causes of death combined. The number of these deaths has drastically declined due to the hard work of the American Heart Association, over the last fifty years. With more than 4.2 million volunteers, the American Heart Association spends more than \$100 million a year to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular disease and stroke through research, education, and community services.

The research supported by the AHA has helped to increase our knowledge of the effects of diet, exercise, smoking and drug therapies on heart disease and stroke. New surgical techniques, such as the use of artificial heart valves, have dramatically reduced the death rates of children suffering from congenital heart disease over the last forty years. The AHA has also helped to establish coronary care units in most of our nation's hospitals, thereby providing specially trained personal and electronic equipment to monitor and treat heart attack patients. The Nobel prize has been awarded three times to researchers funded by the American Heart Association.

The American Heart Association trains 6.4 million Americans a year in emergency training programs. The AHA also provides professional education; equipping physicians and nurses with information on a variety of topics, including how patients can control their blood cholesterol levels.

With 50% of American children overweight and 50% of adults not exercising regularly, the AHA's public education programs are vitally important. Programs such as providing heart health education materials for students in kindergarten through 12th grade, teaching employees about heart health at their places of work, and teaching people how to cook using AHA's dietary guidelines, provide Americans with potentially lifesaving skills and information.

The American Heart Association reaches seven million people a year with its message of cardiovascular health. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to join in commending the tireless efforts of the AHA over the last fifty years and in designating February as American Heart Month.

NORTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT  
1997 OFFICER OF THE YEAR  
DETECTIVE JEROME BROWN

### **HON. CARRIE P. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the outstanding example of honor and duty shown by the North Miami Police Department's 1997 Officer of the Year, Detective Jerome Brown. Chosen by a committee of his peers, he is a fitting choice.

Detective Brown was twice named Officer of the Month during 1997: once for his work in apprehending the armed robber of a local business; and once for the arrest of five offenders in an armed robbery. Detective Brown's reputation is for being tireless in pursuing suspects and clearing by arrest a high number of his cases.

Throughout his 27-year career, he has repeatedly been described by his superiors as

enthusiastic, persistent, compassionate, and highly self-motivated. These traits have earned him the respect and admiration of his peers, which is the ultimate compliment in any field. Congratulations to Detective Brown for his commitment to his community and his work to keep our neighborhoods safe.

### **TRIBUTE TO MARY TSURUKO TSUKAMOTO**

### **HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an educator, activist, and leader of national prominence: Mary Tsuruko Tsukamoto. Mrs. Tsukamoto passed away on January 6, leaving a tremendous legacy as a teacher, activist, and hero to countless Americans. Today, in Sacramento, California, she will be fondly remembered at two separate memorial services.

The child of immigrants from Okinawa, Mary Tsuruko Dakuzaku was born in San Francisco in 1915. Her family moved to the Florin area just south of Sacramento in 1925. There, she attended segregated schools. By the beginning of World War II, she has married the man with whom she would spend the next six decades, Alfred Tsukamoto. In 1942, along with their five year old daughter, Marielle, the Tsukamotos were among the more than 10,000 Japanese Americans interned in government camps around the U.S.

After the end of World War II, the Tsukamotos returned to Northern California. Al took a job at the Sacramento Army Depot, while Mary began her vocation as a teacher in 1950. It was in her role as educator that Mary Tsukamoto first began to touch the lives of so many in the Sacramento area. Her unique ability to connect with young people became the trademark of her teaching career at four different elementary schools until her retirement in 1976.

But Mary's retirement from teaching in the Elk Grove, California School District was just the beginning of the most influential period of her life. Her family's forced internment during World War II had left a profound mark on her personal and political beliefs. Fueled by the injustice of the imprisonment of Japanese Americans, Mary launched a courageous crusade to right this national wrong.

In the 1980's Mary joined the fight in support of a national apology and reparations for the Japanese Americans interned during World War II. These efforts included testifying before a congressional committee about the lasting negative impact that the imprisonment had on Japanese Americans throughout our nation. Without her steadfast and vocal championship of this legislation, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, including an apology and reparations, would never have become law.

On a very personal note, Mary's friendship and support during this often difficult legislative battle was invaluable to my colleagues and I as we fought for the reparations bill. I will always value the unique perspective, encouragement, and dedication she offered throughout this important effort.

By the time President Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 into law, Mary had

become a nationally-recognized leader in preserving and promoting the Japanese American heritage. She helped create and plan an exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution about the internment and she authored a book on the subject. Mary also launched an important effort to catalogue and preserve Japanese American artifacts, personal histories, and photographs with the creation of the Japanese American Archival Collection at California State University, Sacramento.

Her activism in these areas, and reputation as a national leader in the fight to provide restitution to the Japanese Americans who were forcibly relocated during the Second World War, brought her back into the classrooms of Sacramento area schools as a unique source of historical information for our community's students. In conjunction with the Florin Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, Mary set out to retell the glorious and sometimes painful history of Japanese Americans in the twentieth century U.S.

Yet Mary Tsukamoto's activist endeavors were not limited solely to the imprisonment issue. She also found time to lead Jan Ken Po Gakko, a group which preserves the Japanese heritage in the United States. Her involvement in this organization enhanced her already remarkable pursuits in putting together lectures, creating displays, and writing about the internment of Japanese Americans.

By the early 1990's Mary Tsukamoto's achievements were gaining recognition throughout California. In 1992, a new elementary school was named after her in the Vintage Park area of South Sacramento. In May of 1997, she was named a "Notable Californian" by the California State Senate and State Capitol Museum, making her the second person to ever receive this high honor. Last September, she was presented with the California Asian Pacific Sesquicentennial Award for all of her accomplishments in the Asian/American community.

Mr. Speaker, as Mary Tsukamoto is eulogized today by her many friends and admirers, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this extraordinary activist, teacher, and powerful leader. Her impact on our national heritage and the very fabric of who we are as a country will be felt for many generations to come. I salute her personal strength and determination in educating her fellow citizens, pursuing justice, and promoting the heritage of all Japanese Americans.

### **A CENTURY OF INDEPENDENCE**

### **HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the beginning of a year-long celebration of the centennial of Philippine independence. June 12, 1898 is the day the Philippines gained its independence from Spain—and June 12th is celebrated in the Philippines as Independence Day by order of President Diosdado Macapagal.

This year, in the Philippines and in the numerous Filipino-American communities in the United States, lengthy celebrations are being prepared that will occur throughout the entire year. In my hometown of San Diego, a civic



parade showcasing Filipino culture is among the many events planned to commemorate this milestone.

Historians tell us that the Philippines was "discovered" in 1521 by Portuguese sailor Ferdinand Magellan, who worked for Spain. In spite of a bloody battle between Filipino fighters and the invaders in which Magellan was killed, Spain colonized the Philippines and held power for nearly four hundred years.

In 1896, Filipinos mustered the courage to bond together to overthrow the Spanish colonialists. Filipino revolutionaries, led by General Emilio Aguinaldo, took to the streets in his hometown of Kawit, about 15 miles southwest of Manila, and proclaimed an end to Spanish rule. The open resistance of the imperial power of Spain led to the declaration of independence two years later on June 12, 1898 and with it the birth of Asia's first independent nation.

But in real terms, just as Spain slipped out, came the colonizing power of the United States. Spain "ceded" the Philippines to the United States, blatantly ignoring the Filipinos' own proclamation of freedom. So, practically, the century of independence is somewhat of an illusion, for the Philippines was a territory and then a commonwealth of the United States until July 4, 1946.

However, Independence Day is celebrated for good reason on June 12th, because the victory in 1898 symbolizes to the Filipino people the triumph of political will and physical endurance by Filipinos against foreign control. Today, Filipinos are free and they have proven their quest for freedom in countless battles—most recently as part of the American Army in World War II.

Filipino soldiers were drafted into the Armed Forces by President Franklin D. Roosevelt—and promised full benefits as American veterans. But these benefits were rescinded by the 79th Congress in 1946. Congressman Ben Gilman and I have now introduced the Filipino Veterans Equity Act (H.R. 836) which would restore the benefits promised when these soldiers were drafted into service by the President of the United States and fought side-by-side with soldiers from the American mainland against a common enemy.

Over 175 of our colleagues have co-sponsored H.R. 836, in support of these brave veterans. A most appropriate way to commemorate this centennial year of Philippine independence is to pass H.R. 836 and restore honor and equity to the Filipino veterans of World War II!

As Congressman of the Congressional district which includes more Filipino-American residents than any other except for Hawaii, I am very honored to have been chosen as their representative in Congress. I look forward to participating in the 1998 celebrations commemorating their Independence Day and the spirit, resourcefulness, warmth, and compassion of the people of the Philippines and of Filipino-Americans.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HONORABLE FRANCISCO DUENAS PEREZ

### HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the island of Guam lost a very valuable member of its community on December 22, 1997. Mr. Francisco Duenas Perez, a farmer, businessman, government administrator, and legislator was called to his eternal rest at the age of 84. The late Francisco Perez worked early on in life at the U.S. Navy's Bureau of Yards & Docks. He graduated from Guam Evening High School and in 1984 received an honorary Doctorate of Laws degree from the University of Guam.

Frank Perez accomplished many things during his lifetime. He was the first Chamorro farmer to successfully incubate imported fertilized eggs from the United States and sell locally produced eggs to stores throughout Guam. In 1983, he was commissioned as a captain in the Guam Militia. During the World War II occupation of Guam he risked his life by secretly operating a radio to rescue two American escapees. He was named administrator for the Agricultural Department under the Bureau of Naval Intelligence in 1944 and later went on to begin a long and distinguished career in the Guam Legislature. He is also known as the "father" of the Guam Economic Development Authority, having formulated the concept of developing a government agency to help promote and attract new businesses to Guam. He introduced the idea of tax breaks, known as qualifying certificates, as a valuable economic stimulus. In 1947, he co-founded the Pacific Construction Company. He served as its president until 1951, when he founded what is now known as Perez Bros. Inc., a construction company and the island's first private subdivision. In addition, he was a cofounder of the Guam Contractors Association in 1960 and contributed to that organization's work with economic development activities on Guam.

Frank Perez was recognized for his outstanding accomplishments and contributions to the success of Guam's economy by being elected to the Guam Chamber of Commerce's Business Hall of Fame in 1995. He was one of Guam's outstanding leaders whose experiences during World War II shaped several generations. His dignity, his selfless service, his commitment to family and to Guam serve as reminders of the qualities which our island needs. His passing is a great loss and his presence will be missed.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I offer my condolences and join his widow, Mrs. Carmen Camacho Duenas Perez, and their children and spouses namely: Mr. Frank and Mrs. Christina Perez, Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Donna Perez, Mr. Gregory and Mrs. Ernestina Perez, Mr. George and Mrs. Tressie Perez, Mr. Thomas Perez and Ms. Karen Kasperbauer, Mr. John and Mrs. Patricia Perez, Ms. Mary Perez, Dr. Sulpicio and Mrs. Carmen Soriano, and Ms. Margarita Perez, along with their 29 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, in mourning the loss of a husband, a father, and an invaluable citizen who dedicated his life for the people of Guam. Si Yu'os Ma'ase, Tun Francisco.

INTERNATIONAL PAPER CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION TO TAKE PLACE AT HUDSON RIVER MILL

### HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues a very special event taking place on January 28, 1998 in Corinth, New York, located in my congressional district. On that day, the employees of International Paper will launch a year long celebration of the company's Centennial Anniversary at its Hudson River mill. This location is particularly fitting because the Hudson River mill is the oldest operating mill in International Paper's worldwide mill system. The facility was built in 1869 by one of the first manufacturers of paper using wood fiber, then joined with 17 other mills in 1898 to form International Paper, the nation's largest producer of newsprint at that time.

Today, International Paper is the world's largest forest products company, with operations in 31 countries employing more than 85,000 people. Its many products include printing papers, packaging, and forest products, and it continues to manage more than 6 million acres of forest land nationwide.

In honor of the 100 year anniversary, International Paper Chairman John Dillon is hosting a special ceremony at the Hudson River mill, featuring a long list of distinguished guests which include Governor George Pataki. The most important people at this event, however, will be the many generations of dedicated employees who, by building lasting relationships with the local communities, have made International Paper an outstanding corporate citizen.

I would like to pay a special tribute to the more than 600 men and women who work at the Hudson River mill, both for the history they celebrate this year and for the tremendous contributions they continue to make today. One good example of these activities is the new de-inking facility which allows the mill to produce high-quality recycled and virgin grades of coated publication paper.

One individual whom I would like to particularly recognize is Alice Boisvaert, a retiree from International Paper's Hudson River mill, who will be honored at the January 28th celebration. Alice, now 95, worked in the mill during the 1940's, when one of her wartime duties was to paint the mill's windows black in accordance with civil defense air-raid regulations. Alice's grandson, Jim, as well as his father, later worked at the Hudson River mill. Among Jim's initial tasks was scraping that black paint off of the windows.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Alice, her family, and the rest of the International Paper family on a century of service and commitment to their communities. I ask that all Members join me in rising to thank these individuals for their civic dedication, technological contributions, and environmental stewardship over the last hundred years. May the next hundred be even better than the first!

HONORING THE EXEMPLARY CITIZENRY OF JIMMY TOUSSAINT AND ELI BINDER

**HON. CARRIE P. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the outstanding example of honesty and civic responsibility demonstrated by two young men from my district, Mr. Jimmy Toussaint and Mr. Eli Binder.

While walking through their neighborhood, Jimmy, who is eleven years old, and Eli, who is twelve, noticed that a neighbor, having left in a rush, neglected to close and lock the front door to his home.

They could have kept on walking, but they felt a responsibility to the welfare of their neighbor. After knocking but receiving no response, Jimmy and Eli sought out the assistance of an adult Citizens on Patrol volunteer and informed him that the homeowner had neglected to secure his home. The volunteer locked the door and notified the grateful homeowner, Mr. Bruce Hamerstrom.

These young people have demonstrated an important part of what makes a community: neighbors looking after neighbors. I congratulate Jimmy and Eli for their good sense and judgement. I know that their parents must be proud of them, as are we all.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD L. MAYBERRY

**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most respected and effective labor leaders, Mr. Richard L. Mayberry. This evening, Mr. Mayberry's many friends and colleagues will commemorate the conclusion of his tenure as an officer with the Sacramento Area Fire Fighters Local 522.

"Dick" Mayberry has been affiliated with the Sacramento Area Fire Fighters Local 522 for 26 years. He has served as an Area Director, Vice President, and, for the past twelve years, he has held the post of President.

A native of Sacramento, California, Dick Mayberry is a veteran of the United States Army and the father of two. He joined the Sacramento Fire Department in 1964 after serving one year as a correctional officer.

Mr. Mayberry's leadership abilities allowed him to achieve the rank of Apparatus Operator in 1975, three years after he first became an officer in the Sacramento Area Fire Fighters Local 522.

In 1985, Dick Mayberry assumed the presidency of Local 522 and quickly established himself as one of our community's most influential champions of labor. This position soon led him to a variety of other important labor and civic posts.

Among these, Mr. Mayberry was a Sacramento County Civil Service Commissioner from 1984 to 1994, chairing that important body for two terms. He has also been a mem-

ber of the Industrial Relations Association of Northern California for thirteen years, serving as an officer for two terms.

Since 1985, he has been Vice President of the Public Employee Council and an Executive Board Member with the Sacramento Central Labor Council, our city's most prominent representative labor body. Mr. Mayberry's other notable labor positions include the chairmanship of the Board of Publishers of the Sacramento Labor Bulletin and membership in the International Association of Fire Fighters.

Mr. Mayberry has been most forceful in his capacity as the chief negotiator for the City of Sacramento's fire fighters. In performing this key duty, with the pay, benefits, and working conditions of his membership hanging in the balance, Mr. Mayberry achieved his reputation for professional excellence.

In 1995, he retired from active service with the Sacramento Fire Department, but that did not preclude him from passing on his occupational expertise to other fire fighters. In this regard, he has worked as a member of the California State Board of Fire Services since 1996.

Dick Mayberry's unique labor and fire fighting background has led him to represent our community's fire fighters before the Civil Service Commission regarding examinations, classification, and disciplinary matters. He has also attained a strong grasp of the issues involving the merger, consolidation, and reorganization of fire districts.

Mr. Speaker, Dick Mayberry has led a remarkable career in Northern California. He has come to personify integrity and drive in Sacramento's labor community. We ask all of our colleagues to join us in saluting his 26 year record of achievement with the Sacramento Area Local Fire Fighters.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK MARTINEZ PORTUSACH

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the island of Guam mourns the passing of one of its most respected and dedicated leaders. Frank Martinez Portusach, the former mayor of the village of Agana Heights, was called to his eternal rest of December 26, 1996 at the age of 76. He leaves behind his wife, the former Ms. Virginia Hughes and his children Thelma, Frances, Frank, Jane John and Deanna.

Mayor Portusach was an accomplished artist and craftsman, a Merchant Marine Engineering officer, a businessman, and a senior island politician. This man, known throughout the island for his seemingly inexhaustible energy, ushered the transformation of Agana Heights from a village lined with dirt roads, lacking sewer lines, and devoid of community facilities into a model island village with the lowest crime rate, the finest streets, and one of Guam's most extensive community activity programs.

Born in 1921 to Concepcion Portusach Lorenzo and Henry Sakakibara, Mayor Portusach received formal education from several institutions including the Guam High School, U.S. Naval Correspondence School, and the Marine Engineering School under the

Department of the Navy. After retiring from the United States Merchant Marines, he started a local business in 1967. He began his political career in 1976, back when mayors were known as village commissioners. Mayor Portusach received an appointment from former Governor Ricky Bordallo as commissioner for the village of Agana Heights. It was at this post that he became so loved and respected by the island's civilian and military communities.

In addition to his efforts towards having village streets paved and in the development of community activities, he is also credited for the construction of waterlines, installation of streetlights, and renovation of village schools. Through his efforts, Agana Heights became the first village on Guam to have mail received through home delivery service. This was made possible by a detailed village map personally drafted by Mayor Portusach. The Department of Land Management has since included this map in their official records.

However, Mayor Portusach's most prominent and lasting achievement is probably the institution of the Sister Village Program. He really took great pride in his ability to work well with the military community. After hearing about friction between the military and local communities several decades ago, he started the program wherein Guam villages "adopted" local military commands fostering friendship and cooperation. This has resulted in tremendous mutual benefits for service members and the local community.

In recognition of his achievements, he was presented a host of awards and commendations. Among these are several notable and distinct honors. This includes being named an honorary Seabee, an honorary captain in the Police Reserve, and an honorary Commodore in the United States Navy.

The late Honorable Frank Martinez Portusach left a legacy of service and devotion to the village of Agana Heights, the island of Guam, its people and the United States. It is with a sense of great loss that I pay tribute to this distinguished local leaders. His perseverance and energy will forever live in the hearts of his constituents. May his lifelong commitment to the village of Agana Heights and the island forever inspire us.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I offer my condolences and join his widow, children, and grandchildren in mourning the loss of a husband, a father, and a fellow servant to the people of Guam.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE PENSION PORTABILITY

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation which addresses an extremely important issue—pension portability. Today, there are 51 million American workers with no pension plan and there are many others who lose their pensions when they change jobs. Our society is ever changing and one of these changes is job mobility. It is much more common for individuals to have several jobs than in the past.

Unfortunately, when individuals change jobs, they are not able to continue the same level of pension benefits. This fact is especially true if the individual's pension plan is a defined benefit plan. Today, I am introducing legislation which takes steps towards improving pension portability upon employment separation. The legislation improves pension portability for both defined benefit and defined contribution plans.

For defined contribution plans, the legislation reduces the current vesting period of five years for employer contributions to three years. For both defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans, the legislation requires the employer to offer the employee the option of receiving a lump sum distribution to an individual retirement account (IRA). The employer has to make this offer to the employee within 90 days of termination of employment. The employee does not have to take this option because in some situations this would not be the best option for the employee.

The lump sum would be directly transferred to an IRA. These funds would be subject to a higher penalty than the current law penalty of 10 percent for withdrawals made prior to the taxpayer reaching age 59½. Withdrawals would be subject to a 25 percent penalty for the first two years and then it would be 10 percent. These penalties are the same penalties as for simple IRAs. The 10 percent penalty would be waived for the three allowable purposes under current law which are first time purchase of a home, costs of higher education, and medical expenses.

The legislation waives the 10 percent penalty for withdrawals made before age 59½ for individuals who have received 12 weeks of unemployment compensation. This provision is to help those who have lost their job and need to use their retirement savings to make ends meet during difficult financial times.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH PICCONE,  
UNICO HONOREE OF THE YEAR

**HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to put a face and a name to the spirit that embodies one of the strengths of our country: community involvement. Community involvement that stems from a life of dedication and determination. It is a distinct privilege to extend my congratulations to Joe Piccone, Unico Honoree of the Year.

For many, Joe represents the optimum response to the question "What could be?". A child from Civitella, Joe created success in the United States in part due to the strength provided by his culture and customs, and his actions have served to improve the environment and the lives of others. It is fitting that such an outstanding organization recognize the example Joe Piccone sets for commitment to excellence. Sharing Joe's Italian heritage, I am extremely proud to call the honoree a friend and greatly appreciate having this opportunity to express my sincere respect for him.

Businessman, husband and father, or friend; Joe brings an enthusiasm that underscores the importance of engaging yourself in life

even with regard to the most ordinary, everyday occurrences. Joe's life illustrates the profound effects that result from love and perseverance. Joe, I salute your most recent accomplishment and offer my best wishes to you and your family for continued success.

TAIWAN STANDS TALL  
FINANCIALLY AND POLITICALLY

**HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, during the January recess I had an opportunity to visit the Republic of China on Taiwan. I met with President Lee Teng-hui, Foreign Minister Jason Hu, and other leaders. We discussed a number of interesting issues.

One issue was the current financial turmoil affecting Asia. It is interesting to note that Taiwan, so far, has remained relatively unscathed and has stood out as one of the few strong Asian economies. It has close to \$90 billion of foreign currency deposits. Its banking sector is not as exposed as other economies to real estate and stock market speculation. Its currency has depreciated 20 percent against the dollar but will remain stable.

The Taiwan economic miracle has shown resilience and dynamism during the past months of Asian meltdown. The economic growth rate for Taiwan in 1997 reached 6.72 percent, the highest in 5 years. Taiwan's economic vitality can also be seen in its low foreign debts. Its total foreign debt amounts to less than \$100 million.

Taiwan's economic stability stemmed mainly from sound planning for strong growth and development, financial reform, economic liberalization, and the acceleration of privatization.

The Financial Times of London and the Asian Wall Street Journal recently described Taiwan as the "Switzerland of the Orient." Such accolades about Taiwan speak volumes about the strength and vitality of Taiwan's economy and Taiwan's potential to become a full-fledged developed economy by the turn of the century.

President Lee, Foreign Minister Hu and I also discussed Taiwan's relations with the mainland. Taipei has reiterated its "three nos" and "three musts" policies toward the Chinese mainland. The "three nos" refer to no Taiwan independence, no hasty unification and no confrontation. The "three musts" are the maintenance of peace, the continuation of exchanges and the search for a win-win situation that benefits both Taiwan and the mainland.

Foreign Minister Hu told me that Taipei and Peking must learn to treat each other with respect and work toward collective cooperation. Taipei has always kept its door open for negotiating with Peking and that cross-strait talks should be resumed as soon as possible.

Foreign Minister Hu, the former ROC representative in Washington, is young and energetic. During the last three months as his nation's top diplomat, he has traveled to Africa, consolidated friendship and relations for his country worldwide. In my conversations with him, he discussed the importance of Taiwan-US relations.

Minister Hu reminded me that Taipei has no intention of interfering with the development of

US-PRC relations and that Taipei hopes that the US will abide by the Taiwan Relations Act and its regulations regarding arms sales to Taipei. Moreover, he hopes that the US will not change its consistent position on the sovereignty of Taiwan, since the US has never recognized that the PRC enjoys sovereignty over Taiwan.

Minister Hu also drew my attention to the trade relations between Taipei and the US. Citing Taiwan's purchase of American agricultural exports as one example of the strong trade relations between the two countries, he mentioned Taiwan is the fifth largest market for American agricultural exports. In 1996 Taiwan's imports of American agricultural products were US\$2.9 billion; by contrast, the PRC is the seventh largest market for American agricultural exports. Taiwan, in fact, is one of the most important markets for US goods.

Apart from strong trade relations between Taiwan and the US, Minister Hu stressed that the peoples of Taiwan and the United States share the same system of values. Taiwan's democratization has gained recognition from the American public and he hopes that the United States will continue to treat both Taiwan and the Chinese mainland fairly and make efforts for Taiwan and the mainland to settle the reunification issue peacefully.

I was very impressed with Taiwan's financial and political development. And Mr. Speaker, a little history is in order as well. You know, Taiwan is one of the best friends America has ever had. Back during the Cold War, we in America really didn't have a more steadfast ally in our struggle against Communism than the people of Taiwan.

They were integral in stopping the spread of that deadly system in Asia, and for that we owe them a debt of gratitude.

And with the successive free elections over the past few years, the obvious respect for human rights that is evidenced there, and the good neighborly policy they follow in foreign affairs, it is obvious to all honest and well-meaning people that the Republic of China on Taiwan, and not the Communist dictatorship in Beijing, represents the correct model for the future of Chinese civilization. This will remain true no matter what kind of reforms the regime in Beijing attempts, and no matter what kind of policy the West pursues vis-à-vis that regime, as long as the Communists remain in power.

Mr. Speaker, after my trip, I am more convinced than ever that Taiwan is one of the few true democracies in Asia worthy of our support.

TRIBUTE TO EDUARDO PALACIOS

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to my good friend Eduardo Palacios, who for 27 years has been a bona fide hero to hundreds if not thousands of immigrants in the San Fernando Valley. In 1971, Eduardo started an immigrant rights and resource clinic in a tiny one-room office in the City of San Fernando. Today these kinds of centers are common, but that wasn't the case in the early 1970s.

Eduardo was motivated by the humanitarian concerns and a strong sense of Chicano

pride. He witnessed Mexican immigrants who were being exploited by unscrupulous businesses. Language and culture prevented many from seeking or receiving help. By offering his service, Eduardo filled a huge need.

Soon after opening, the clinic moved into a room with a couple of desks and file cabinets in Santa Rosa Church. The clinic adopted the name Immigration Services of Santa Rosa. Using a corps of dedicated volunteers, Eduardo expanded the clinic to include job referrals, medical assistance, food and shelter. He was doing everything possible to provide his clients with the tools to make a good living in this country.

It's hard to believe that Eduardo was doing this work while employed full-time at Harshaw Chemicals. In 1983, he left his job with Harshaw to devote himself to assisting immigrants. Two years later Immigration Services of Santa Rosa was accredited by the Board of Immigration Appeals, which led to more clients. The timing could not have been better; new arrivals were now coming to Southern California from Central America as well as Mexico.

Immigration Services of Santa Rosa is a family affair. In 1988, Eduardo hired his daughter, Victoria Aldina, as Assistant Executive Director; three years later his son, Carl Alan, joined the organization as Administrative Director. Together the Palacios have been a godsend for Spanish-speaking immigrants.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Eduardo Palacios, a leader in the effort to improve the lives of immigrants. His compassion, sensitivity and extraordinary energy inspire us all. I am proud to be his friend.

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THE SPIRIT OF DR. KING LIVES  
ON

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, we celebrated the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Reflecting on his life and work, I was reminded of the challenges that democracy poses to us and the delicacy of liberty. Dr. King's life, and, unfortunately, his vicious murder, should remind all of us that we must continually work and, if necessary, fight, to secure and protect our freedoms. Dr. King, in his courage to act, his willingness to meet challenges, and his ability to achieve, embodied all that is good and true in that battle for liberty.

The spirit of Dr. King lives on in many of the citizens in communities throughout our nation. It lives on in the people whose actions reflect the spirit of resolve and achievement that will help move our country into the 21st century. In particular, several distinguished individuals from Indiana's First Congressional District were recognized during the 19th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast on Monday, January 19, 1998, at the Gary Genesis Center in Gary, Indiana. In the past year, these individuals have, in their own ways, acted with courage, met challenges, and used their abilities to reach goals and enhance their communities.

Lake County Prosecutor, the Honorable Bernard Carter, was honored with the 1998

"Marcher's Award" for his contributions to the struggle for equality of civil rights. As the first African-American County Prosecutor in the State of Indiana, Bernie has been an outstanding professional in his fight for the civil rights of all minorities and women. He has been a role model for our young people and an outspoken and issue-oriented leader in the justice system. In addition, Mr. Curtis Strong received the 1998 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "Drum Major Award" for his outstanding contributions to fighting segregation. Curtis has held leadership roles with both the NAACP and the Fair Share Organization, in which he has demonstrated against racial injustices in housing, education, employment, and police brutality. Curtis was also a top labor union official who fought for minority inclusion in union leadership, skilled crafts jobs, and seniority appreciation. Both Bernard Carter and Curtis Strong should be applauded for their important civil rights efforts in Northwest Indiana.

I would also like to recognize the following Tolleston Junior High School students: Janne' Bryant, Antoinette Correa, Tiffany Finch, Brandi Frith, Lakisha Girder, Leyona Greer, Damara Hamlin, Ayonna Hood, Leah Johnson, Jacleen Joiner, Candice Jones, Taariq Muhammad, Ayashia Muhammad, Ilisha Muhammad, Reneda Pryor, Whitney Sullivan, David Suggs, Courtney Williams, and Joey Willis. These distinguished students are members of the Tolleston Junior High School Spell Bowl Team, which won the 1997 Indiana State Bowl Championship in spelling. In addition, the following students from Northwest Indiana won the 1997 "I Have A Dream" Youth Assembly essay contest this past July in Little Rock, Arkansas: Dayna Maria Ingram, of West Side High School; Wesley Adam Gordon, of St. Michael School; Katherine R. Rzepka, of Andrean High School; Tavetta Pulliam, of Horace Mann High School; and Daniel J. Davis, of Valparaiso High School.

The accomplishments of these outstanding individuals are a reflection of their hard work and dedication to scholarship. Their scholastic effort and rigorous approach to learning have made them the best in the State and in the Nation. They have also brought pride to themselves, their families, their schools and their communities. Their success is also a credit to the outstanding ability and leadership of their teachers. In particular, Margaret Hymes and Charles Wells should be commended for the devotion they have demonstrated as coaches for the Tolleston Junior High Spell Bowl Team.

Though very different in nature, the achievement of all these individuals reflects many of the same attributes that Dr. King possessed, as well as the values he espoused. Like Dr. King, these individuals saw challenges and rose to the occasion. They set goals and worked to achieve them. Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my other colleagues to join me in commending their initiative, resolve, and dedication.

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CONTRIBUTION BY LIZ MOWRY TO  
THE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS  
MEMORIAL

**HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, we honor our veterans not only by recognizing what they have

done for this country, but also by remembering what they sacrificed to achieve that goal. For many families in Southwestern Pennsylvania, like mine, who have family members that served during wartime, we are reminded every day about these sacrifices.

Late last year, a resident of my district, Liz Mowry of Munhall, Pennsylvania, gave a very special gift to the Pittsburgh community. Her contribution will not only help to honor our veterans, but it will also help our entire nation understand and remember the supreme sacrifices they made during wartime in order to protect the freedoms we enjoy today.

This gift was many personal possessions owned by her father during his service in World War I, which Ms. Mowry donated to the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial in Pittsburgh, the Commonwealth's, and the nation's second largest veterans' museum. These items are significant for many reasons.

One of the most impressive features is the excellent condition of the items, given their age. In fact, the centerpiece of the collection is a military uniform, now over 80 years old, in museum-quality shape. Other items Ms. Mowry is giving to the Memorial are WWI photos and a copy of the diary her father kept during his service.

These items are also historically significant because of their owner. Sergeant William Edward "Doc" Handschuh, Ms. Mowry's father, was a member of Company 3, the 1st Air Service Mechanical Regiment. His work included servicing planes flown by WWI flying ace Edward Rickenbacher, who some consider to be one of the best, and most famous, pilots in history.

However, the most important thing Sergeant Handschuh left his family was not his service memorabilia, but the pride he felt for his service, and his country. While these lessons cannot be hung in a museum, they live in the minds and hearts of Sergeant Handschuh's family.

Liz Mowry and her family have kept her father's wartime memories as a reminder of his service. Now, these rare pieces of American history can teach us all more about the young Americans that fought in the early years of this century to protect this nation's future.

I add my sincere gratitude to that of the entire Pittsburgh community for the gift Ms. Mowry has bestowed on the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial. Our community has a long history of honoring military service, and her donation will continue that tradition, giving all Memorial visitor's the opportunity to learn more about the veterans of WWI.

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TRIBUTE TO LEE WELINSKY

**HON. JULIAN C. DIXON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call to the attention of the Congress the accomplishments of Lee Welinsky, a constituent and friend whose life and commitment to her family and community has exemplified the very best spirit of American citizenship. On Saturday, February 7, Lee's many friends and admirers will gather at the Red Lion Hotel in Culver City, California to honor her on her 70th birthday. It is a pleasure to join them in paying tribute to her.

Lee has led a rich and remarkable life which began in 1928 when she was born in Indianapolis, Indiana to parents who were immigrants from Eastern Europe. She spent her childhood in Brooklyn, New York. An excellent student, she was valedictorian of her junior high school class at P.S. 109.

In 1943, Lee's parents moved to Los Angeles, where in 1945 she graduated from Susan Miller Dorsey High School at the age of 16. It was at this time that she explored her interest in flying. It was her mother's concern for her safety that persuaded her to quit flying to concentrate on her studies at Los Angeles Community College. However, when World War II ended she was unable to continue her studies as she would have liked because of the many schedule changes required to accommodate the returning veterans.

It was in 1947 that Lee met and fell in love with Jack Welinsky, and the following year they were married. Their first child, Howard, was born a year later, and their daughter, Sandra followed in 1954. During these years she devoted herself to raising a family. Despite those demands, she helped Jack with his auto supply business and supported Howard and Sandra through college at UCLA.

In 1976, Lee suffered the loss of her husband Jack and her mother. In the wake of that loss, she decided that at age 48, it was time to resume her formal education, this time at West Los Angeles College. As with every important undertaking, she pursued it with great commitment and determination. That commitment and determination enabled her to graduate with honors with an Associate of Arts degree in 1981, and in 1984 she graduated Cum Laude from California State University, Dominguez Hills with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. In 1989, at the age of 62, Lee graduated from the University of West Los Angeles School of Law with a Juris Doctor degree and later passed the bar on her first attempt.

Lee is currently an attorney with the Santa Monica Rent Control Agency, where her expertise in landlord-tenant issues has made her a vital resource. She has been honored by the Culver City Council for her work on the Culver City Rent Control Board. She is also a volunteer attorney at the Bet Tzedek legal clinic where she counsels low income people with landlord-tenant problems.

Throughout her busy and active life, Lee has always been involved in politics and the debate over public policy. She has served as a member of the Culver City Planning Commission, President of the Culver City Democratic Club, and President of her union at the City of Santa Monica Rent Control Agency. In 1994 she was honored as "Democrat of the Year" by her Assembly District Democratic Committee. She is currently a delegate to the Democratic State Convention, and has been elected to serve on the Executive Board of the California Democratic Party.

In her modest way Lee would insist that her greatest accomplishment has been her family. As with all her other important endeavors, she has embraced the role of grandmother to Sandra's two children, Jennifer and David, with enthusiasm. She continues to be involved in their lives and with them she indulges her great love of travel.

Mr. Speaker, Lee Welinsky is an exceptional individual whose life of service to her family and her community stands as an example for

us all. I know that my colleagues join me in honoring her many achievements and contributions and in wishing her a very happy 70th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO A. LOWELL LAWSON,  
JR., BUSINESS LEADER, PATRIOT  
AND SERVANT OF THE UNITED  
STATES OF AMERICA

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of personal pleasure that I recognize the major accomplishments of an individual who dedicated his career to serving the interests of our country by strengthening our national security for the past 37 years.

On January 1, 1998 Mr. A. Lowell Lawson will retire as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Raytheon E-Systems. Under Mr. Lawson's leadership, E-Systems has contributed vitally to the effectiveness of the national intelligence community. In doing so, E-Systems contributed substantially to the United States being victorious in the Cold War—and in keeping us ever vigilant even today.

Mr. Lawson currently is a Raytheon Company Executive Vice President and a member of Raytheon's Board of Directors since 1995.

Mr. Lawson has served as head of E-Systems since August 1994. Prior to that he was President and CEO, beginning January 1994. In April of 1989, Mr. Lawson was elected President and Chief Operating Officer.

Mr. Lawson was born on January 16, 1938 in Macon, Georgia. He graduated from Warner Robins High School in Warner Robins, Georgia in 1956.

After graduating from the University of Georgia with a Bachelor of Science in mathematics in 1960, Mr. Lawson served as a contract price analyst at Warner Robins Logistics Center, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia.

Mr. Lawson joined E-Systems in 1964 as supervisor of proposal and cost analysis and later became manager of cost and services in the Greenville Division. He was assigned to the corporate staff as manager of corporate financial controls in 1965. He was promoted to director of corporate financial controls in 1969, and in 1970 became vice president-finance and division controller at the Memcor Division in Huntington, Indiana. Early in 1973 he was named Vice President and Corporate Controller of E-Systems. He was promoted to the position of Vice President and General Manager of the Greenville Division in 1978.

Mr. Lawson was named Senior Vice President and group executive of the Aircraft Systems Group in 1983. In April 1987, he was elected to the position of Executive Vice President, and served in that capacity until his election as President and COO.

His service is exemplified in his support and participation as a member of the Air Force Association, American Defense Preparedness Association, Association of the United States Army, Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association, Association of Old Crows, and Navy League of the United States. He has served on the University of Texas at Dallas Engineering School Advisory Board, and was previously a member of the Business

Advisory Council of the East Texas State University.

He resides in Greenville, Texas and is a deacon at the Ridgecrest Baptist Church, past treasurer and member of the Board of Directors of Dallas Bible College, and has served on the Industrial Development Fund Board for the city of Greenville, Texas.

Mr. Lawson is married to the former Carol Few of Apalachee, Georgia. They have two sons, Andrew Lowell, III and Steven Bryan, and seven grandchildren.

I cannot imagine any person being more successful—more productive—and yet so capable of friendship. I am very lucky to be a friend of Lowell and of his family.

Mr. Speaker, fellow colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to the exemplary accomplishments of Mr. A. Lowell Lawson, for a lifetime of achievements as a business leader, patriot, and servant of the United States of America.

COMMEMORATION OF SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. VIC FAZIO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate and celebrate the recent 50th anniversary of Sacramento's non-profit, community-owned electric company—the Sacramento Municipal Utility District—commonly known as SMUD.

Dissatisfied with high electric rates, on July 2, 1923, Sacramento voters overcame tremendous opposition to approve the creation of SMUD. Although SMUD became a legal entity in 1923, it was another 23 years before the courts upheld the District's right to supply power to the capital region. On New Year's Eve 1946, SMUD began operations.

Throughout its history, SMUD has survived numerous challenges: fighting to restore power during floods and windstorms, teaching customers how to conserve power during the energy crisis of the 1970's, and successfully responding to the closure of Rancho Seco nuclear power plant in 1989. And through it all, SMUD has remained true to its customers. It has consistently sought and developed new and environmentally friendly sources of power. It has educated the public on energy conservation and efficiency when it became a critical national problem. SMUD is currently recognized as an industry leader in energy efficiency and in renewable energy.

For several years, SMUD has been investing in renewable energy sources such as solar and geothermal power plants. Other strategic planning on the part of SMUD, such as aggressive power-purchasing throughout the western U.S., has kept customer rates constant since 1990. SMUD has committed itself to hold customer rates constant until 2001, then reduce them by as much as 20 percent.

In California beginning this year, customers will begin to have a choice of electric supplier—similar to how they currently choose their long-distance telephone company. Last summer, SMUD became the first utility in California to begin offering customers a choice. A limited number of customers, whose combined

electricity usage will add up to 100 megawatts of SMUD's total 2000 megawatts of peak usage, is opened to competition allowing customers to buy power from a supplier of their choice. By moving months ahead of the other utilities, SMUD gained valuable experience, learning the impact of competition on customers and on SMUD operations.

SMUD's commitment to the Sacramento area goes beyond merely providing electrical power. From its inception, SMUD has recognized its responsibility to return something to the community it serves. Last year, as part of the District's Employee Volunteer Program, employees volunteered over 2,300 hours and raised \$20,000 to assist non-profit organizations in the Sacramento area. In partnership with the Sacramento Tree Foundation, SMUD customers have planted more than 200,000 trees in Sacramento since the program began in 1990. SMUD is also aiding in the economic development of the Capital Region. By offering competitive economic development rates, SMUD has helped attract and retain successful companies such as Campbell Soup, Blue Diamond, Packard Bell, Kikkoman and JVC. In the past five years, SMUD has helped to attract or retain 13,000 jobs during a period of economic recession. SMUD is also trying to create a cluster of electric vehicle-related businesses at the McClellan Air Force Base which is slated to close in 2001. McClellan is the largest industrial center in Northern California and offers a sophisticated array of high-tech services that can be contracted by private companies.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Sacramento Municipal Utility District on its 50th year and we wish them continued success as they approach the 21st century and the new competitive environment in the electric power industry.

#### INDEXING FOR INFLATION \$2,000 LIMIT FOR IRA CONTRIBUTIONS

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to help those who do not have employer sponsored pension plans. I agree with Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan that our biggest economic problem is our low national saving rate. Since August of 1997, Americans have been setting aside only 3.8 percent of their personal income.

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 included tax incentives to increase personal saving. This new law expanded individual retirement accounts (IRAs) and created the Roth IRA. Under the new Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, an individual may contribute \$2,000 to either a traditional IRA or a Roth IRA. This \$2,000 limit has not been increased since 1981.

This legislation would simply index the \$2,000 limit for inflation in \$500 increments. The \$2,000 limit would just be increased just for traditional IRAs and not Roth IRAs. The reason for this is traditional IRAs have lower income limits and are designed to help those who do not have employer pension plans.

It is important we do as much as possible to help individuals save for retirement. Many use IRAs as their sole source of private savings for retirement. The \$2,000 limit has not been adjusted since 1981. This is a saving for retirement.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation. During the 105th Congress, I look forward to enacting legislation which will improve our current pension system.

The last provision of the bill addresses a provision of the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997. The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 includes a provision which allows an employer to voluntarily cash-out employees from pension plans upon termination of employment if the amount is less than \$5,000. My legislation would require this sum to be placed in an IRA. The purpose of this provision is to lock up this money for retirement savings. This sum was not taxable income for the employee because it was earmarked for retirement. This provision would allow the funds to be used for retirement.

I urge my colleagues to review and cosponsor this legislation. Pension portability is a serious issue and this legislation makes strides towards improving it. Among all distributions that occur at job change, 33 percent result in an IRA rollover, 7 percent are rolled over to a new employee plan, and 60 percent are cashed out. We need to impose these statistics and the legislation I am introducing today will do this. Enclosed is a summary of the legislation.

#### SUMMARY OF PENSION IMPROVEMENT ACT

Section 1. Short Title.—This legislation is entitled the "Pension Improvement Act of 1998".

Section 2. Faster Vesting for Employer Contribution to Defined Contribution Plans.—Reduced vesting from five to three years for employer contributions to defined contribution plans. Allows an option instead of 3 year vesting the following schedule: at 1 year, 20 percent at 2 years 40 percent, at 3 years 60 percent, at 4 years 80 percent, and at 5 years 100 percent.

Section 3. Employers Required to Permit Rollovers to Individual Retirement Plans Within 3 Months After Separation from Service.—Employer required within 90 days of termination of employment to offer employee their pension benefits to be rolled over into an IRA. The employee is not required to take this option. Withdrawals before the taxpayer reach age 59 and ½ from the rollover IRA are subject to a 25 percent penalty for the first two years and then 10 percent. Current law is a 10 percent penalty on early withdrawals. As under current law, the 10 percent penalty would be waived for withdrawals for first time purchase of a home, costs of higher education, and medical expenses.

Section 4. Penalty-Free Distributions from Individual Retirement Plans to Unemployed Individuals.—The 10 percent penalty would be waived for withdrawals made if the taxpayer has received unemployment compensation for twelve weeks.

Section 5. Involuntary Cash-outs Permitted Only if Distribution Rolled to an IRA.—Involuntary cash-outs of less than \$5,000 need to be rolled over directly into an IRA.

#### HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF RALPH VAUGHN

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, it goes without saying that in Rutherford County, when someone hears the words, "My friend, my friend,—are you excited?," one can only expect to be greeted by the jovial and gregarious, Mr. Ralph Vaughn. Eleven years ago, we were fortunate enough to find someone of his caliber and talents to tackle the challenges facing Rutherford County and the Chamber of Commerce.

Today, I rise to honor the distinguished career of the retiring Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce President, and one of the most enthusiastic individuals I know, Mr. Ralph Vaughn.

When Ralph joined the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce in 1986, the organization had two employees and an annual operating budget of less than \$100,000. Now, under his leadership, the chamber has seen membership double, staff increase to twelve and the operating budget grow to over \$700,000.

Probably the single greatest accomplishment for which Ralph will be remembered is the recent transition of the Chamber office from a log Cabin to its new 10,000 square foot State of the Art facility.

Ralph has been a driving force in preparing Rutherford Countians for the challenges of an expanding economy and continued growth. It was Ralph's innovations and hard work that helped push tourism from a \$34 million a year industry to over \$110 million dollars today. It was also Ralph's vision that helped conceptualize a long range economic development strategy for growth in Rutherford County, known as Rutherford 20/20.

Ralph has not only helped Rutherford County grow, but he also never forgot his hometown of Smithville, Tennessee. Before coming to head the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce, Ralph had a distinguished career in the broadcasting industry which had him managing a successful AM/FM station in Smithville.

However, this is not all Ralph did to help his community. Back in 1971, he and a small group of community leaders founded the now internationally famous Fiddler's Jamboree in Smithville. This event has grown from about 8,000 attendees to over 110,000 in 1996 and was recently named the Official Jamboree and Crafts festival of the State of Tennessee.

Ralph's cheerful smile will surely be missed by the folks at the Chamber, but one thing is for sure he has left an indelible mark on both the success and growth of our community. I am sure he will never stop making new friends and promoting Rutherford County. It has truly been a privilege to work with this man, and I wish him the best of luck in his new endeavors.

ROLLIN POST

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and veteran political reporter Rollin Post, who recently retired as an analyst for KRON-TV in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Since entering journalism in 1952 as a copy boy with CBS Radio in Hollywood, Rollin Post has become well known for his passion for politics, for his sound reporting, and for his insights into the issues confronting our nation and the world. From 1961 to 1973, he concentrated on political and general assignment reporting for KPIX-TV in San Francisco and became the Bay Area's first full time political reporter toward the end of that time. Mr. Post spent the next six years at San Francisco public television station KQED, where he worked on news programs *A Closer Look* and *Newsroom*. In September 1979, Mr. Post joined KRON-TV as a political editor. He provided election night commentary for the station and became best known as co-host of KRON's Sunday morning public affairs program, *California This Week*, which has given Bay Area viewers political insight on local, state, and national issues from newsmakers around the world.

There have been many special moments in Mr. Post's career. He covered fourteen national political conventions, spent a week in Cuba reporting on trade, tourism, and American hijackers in 1978, and covered the Philippine elections in 1986. As a result of his outstanding work, he was given the prestigious Broadcast Preceptor Award from the 32nd Annual San Francisco State University Broadcast Industry Conference for his *Outstanding Contributions to the Industry*. A year later, he was one of three media figures honored by the Coro Foundation for influential participation in the public arena. In 1991, Mr. Post received the Outstanding Journalism Award from Sigma Delta Chi, the professional journalism fraternity.

Although Mr. Post has retired from KRON-TV and *California This Week*, the people of the Bay Area are fortunate that he has decided to continue hosting *Our World This Week*, an international news show produced by Bay TV in cooperation with the World Affairs Council of Northern California.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Rollin Post for his exceptionally distinguished career in journalism and wish him our congressional best as he continues providing the San Francisco Bay Area with his superb insights on the great issues of our times.

THE FOUR CHAPLAINS

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to take this opportunity to honor the legacy of the four

chaplains, who, over 50 years ago, bravely gave their own lives in the icy waters of the North Atlantic so that others might live on. The chaplains—George L. Fox and Clark V. Poling, Protestant ministers; Alexander D. Goode, a rabbi; and John P. Washington, a Catholic priest—offered their life vests to four other men aboard the U.S.A.T. *Dorchester* after the ship had been torpedoed by a German U-boat in the early-mourning hours of February 3, 1943.

The *Dorchester*, carrying 902 servicemen, merchant seamen and civilian workers, was one of three ships in the SG-19 convoy traveling from Newfoundland, across the Atlantic, toward a U.S. Army base on the coast of Greenland. The risk involved in the triad's journey was well-known: the area was constantly patrolled by German U-boats, and the Coast Guard Cutter *Tampa*, a second ship in the convoy, had hours before the attack spotted a German submarine with its sonar.

In the moments just after midnight on February 3rd, as the *Dorchester* crept within 15 miles of its final destination, the ship's captain, Hans J. Danielsen, noticed a German U-boat fast approaching on the horizon. At 12:55 of that same morning the German submarine fired a series of torpedoes, which struck the *Dorchester* well below the water-line, injuring the ship beyond all repair.

Many men were killed instantly from the impact of the blast; many others—including those seriously injured by the initial barrage, and the chaplains—would go down with the ship. As the water poured in through the battered starboard side it became clear that the supply of life jackets was insufficient, and it was into the ensuing scene of chaos, despair, and disbelief that the chaplains contributed their fearless ray of light which shone through the darkness.

When the dearth of life jackets was revealed, the chaplains readily and without question removed their own and gave them to four frightened young men; as the *Dorchester* then began to go down, the chaplains stayed beside the injured men, and offered prayers for those who had died and were injured in the wreckage. It is a testament to their own faith and to their overarching love of man that the chaplains—representatives of three distinct religious creeds—were united in the end as one petitioner before God. When the deck slanted into the water and the chaplains breathed their final breaths they were seen by survivors with their arms linked together in a final symbol of their unity of faith and vision. As stated by Francis B. Thorton in his epic, *Sea of Glory: The Magnificent Story of the Four Chaplains*: "Catholic, Jew and Protestant; each proved that night that courage knows no distinction of creed, bravery no division of caste."

Of the 902 men who boarded the *Dorchester* on February 2, 1943, 672 died, leaving 230 survivors. The legacy of the four chaplains, however, will forever live on through the hearts and minds of the American people. For the qualities which their story defines—hope, self-sacrifice, and inexorable faith—are the qualities which define true American heroes. It is for this reason that the four courageous chaplains must not be forgotten, lest the attributes which they so thoroughly represent be forgotten as well.

The four Army chaplains were posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and

Purple Heart at a ceremony at Fort Meyer, VA in 1944. A chapel in Philadelphia honoring their heroic act of selflessness was dedicated by President Truman in February of 1951, and the chaplains were posthumously awarded a Special Medal of Heroism in January of 1951 by President Kennedy. Additionally, a memorial fountain at the National Memorial Park outside of Washington, DC was constructed in 1955 to attest to their extraordinary act of courage.

On February 1st, the chaplains will be honored in services by the Rockland County American Legion and the Orange County American Legion. In Rockland County the services will be held at the Cavalry Baptist Church; in Orange County they will be held at the First Baptist Church of Middletown.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join in the commemoration of the chaplains' heroic act of courage which we commemorate throughout this month.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM RUSSELL,  
FOUNDER OF KELLY SERVICES

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. William Russell Kelly, founder of Russell Kelly Office Service, and founder of this modern temporary help industry. Mr. Kelly died Saturday, January 3 at his home in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. He was 92.

In 1946, single-handedly, Russ Kelly founded a new industry in a Detroit storefront. It began as an accommodation to employers to fill in for vacationing or sick employees, and also to supplement regular staff during short-term workloads. In the early days most of the temporary employees were women secretaries, hence the name "Kelly Girls" soon became a trademark around the world. Society has moved far beyond this confined role for women and so has the company; today, tens of thousands of professional and technical women and men have joined others in Kelly Services.

Beginning as a fledgling company totaling \$848.00 in sales in its first year, Kelly Services has grown today to a Fortune 500 and a Forbes 500 company, with annual sales approaching \$4 billion. Annually, this Troy, Michigan-based company provides the services of more than 750,000 of its employees through more than 1,500 company offices in 50 states and 16 countries.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the ingenuity and the memory of this entrepreneurial pioneer. Indeed, when Russ Kelly was asked how he wanted to be remembered, he said, "Only as a pioneer."

I extend my sincere sympathy to Russell Kelly's wife, Margaret, his son, Terence E. Adderley, who joined the company in 1958 and became its President in 1967 and who has now succeeded Mr. Kelly as Chairman of the Board of the Company, his daughter-in-law, Mary Beth and his six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.



TRIBUTE TO JAMES B. HUNTER

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of James B. Hunter, a longtime member of the Arlington, Virginia, County Board, who passed away on January 5.

Jim Hunter embodied what many of us strive our entire lives to achieve—a compassionate and effective blend of civic activism and public service that forms a lasting legacy.

Jim served on the Arlington County Board from 1990 until he retired, for health reasons, last September. While on the Board, Jim Hunter spoke up loudly and effectively for the rights of those whose voices are often muted.

But his record of public service encompasses much more than those seven years as an elected official. This willingness to speak up for the dispossessed began long before Jim ever held elected office. Through years of community work, he had built his reputation as a wise and dedicated public servant for years before he gave Arlington voters the opportunity to endorse his leadership through election.

Throughout his life, Jim gave of his time to raise money for groups like the United Way, and served on the boards of the Arlington County chapter of the American Red Cross and the Veterans Memorial YMCA. He was a former president of the Committee of 100, a group of concerned Arlingtonians committed to finding solutions to community challenges. He founded the Arlington Housing Corporation, an organization that works for low- and moderate-income housing and helps keep county teenagers out of trouble. He served on numerous county commissions dealing with issues as wide-ranging as law enforcement, fiscal affairs, and planning.

As a member of the County Board, he served on committees of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, including a stint as chair of COG's transportation planning board and service on boards dealing with airport noise abatement, human services, public safety, and the environment.

But aside from his generous contributions to public service, Jim demonstrated his dedication to others in his private life as well. After he and his wife, Patricia, had three children of their own, they adopted a teenage girl who has fled her native Laos with an aunt and an uncle and who was living in a two-bedroom apartment with 10 other people. This personal response to suffering was indicative of Jim Hunter's life of purposeful compassion.

A Marine Corps veteran, a loving husband, father and grandfather, a respected, indeed beloved, public servant, Jim Hunter served as a role model for an entire generation of civic activists who learned from him profound and lasting lessons about duty, responsibility, and integrity. His family, his friends, and his community will miss him, but we will also remember his commitment to the less fortunate, and in remembering, we will renew our own.

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM LYLES

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say a special word in tribute to the late William R. (Bill) Lyles, a former circuit clerk for Pettis County, Missouri.

A native of Sedalia, MO, Lyles graduated from Smith-Cotton High School in 1943. After high school, he served his nation in the United States Army, fighting in both World War II and the Korean War. In between his military service, Lyles became a small businessman, operating Lyles Cleaners from August 1947 to 1964. In 1966, Mr. Lyles was elected circuit clerk of Pettis County, MO. He was re-elected to that post until his retirement on January 1, 1995.

As a lifelong civic leader, Bill Lyles made it his mission to participate in many community activities. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, American Legion Post No. 16, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 2591, Sedalia Lodge No. 236 AF&AM, Missouri Circuit Clerks Association, Missouri Child Support Association, Association of Retired Missouri State Employees, and the Pettis County Democrat Club. He was also a charter member of the Sedalia Chapter of Missouri Jaycees.

Lyles is survived by his wife Davijean, three sons, two daughters, one brother, and six grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Lyles' military and public service makes him a role model for young civil leaders, and his closeness within the Sedalia community will be greatly missed.

TRIBUTE TO THE HENRY LOU  
GEHRIG INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL  
MICROSOCIETY ITS 1ST ANNUAL  
CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Henry Lou Gehrig Intermediate School Microsociety, an invaluable Bronx institution, which celebrated its 1st Annual Citizenship Ceremony Wednesday, December 3, 1997 in the Rotunda of the Bronx County Building.

Thanks to the efforts of some civic-minded groups in the Bronx to meet the need for increased education facilities and better prepare the youth in the Bronx for real life, the Henry Lou Gehrig Intermediate School Microsociety was established. In fact, the program prepares 6th grade students for high school after three years. It gives them the opportunity to experience real life situations, explore career opportunities, become problem solvers, understand the need for responsibility and develop leadership ability.

Mr. Speaker, the Henry Lou Gehrig Intermediate School Microsociety also encourages the youth of our Bronx to share time and en-

ergy with neighborhood improvement groups and programs for youth in our community. They gain strength, hope and leadership skills through united community involvement. Through Microsociety setting, students are able to choose jobs in their area of interest.

Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege of representing the 16th district of New York where the Henry Lou Gehrig Intermediate School Microsociety is located and I am delighted by its success.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Henry Lou Gehrig Intermediate School Microsociety, to the administration and faculty, and to the students, whose ambition and hard work will make this great institution a tremendous source of pride and success for years to come.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE BIRTH OF GEORGE  
CHAFFEY JR.

**HON. JAY KIM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor one of California's true pioneers—George Chaffey Jr., on the 150th anniversary of his birth.

George Chaffey Jr., who was born on January 28, 1848, emigrated with his family to Southern California from Canada in 1880, went on to found the communities of Etiwanda and Ontario, as well as developing what are now the cities of Ontario, Upland and Rancho Cucamonga. Additionally Mr. Chaffey founded the California cities of Imperial, and Calexico, as well as the Australian Cities of Mildura and Renmark.

In Etiwanda, now a part of modern day Rancho Cucamonga, George Chaffey became the first person west of the Rocky Mountains to design and install a hydroelectric power system to generate electricity that lit two towering 3,000 candlepower arc lights on his property.

The Chaffey-Garcia house in Rancho Cucamonga was the first in Southern California to use Edison's electric incandescent lamps. Chaffey also installed the world's first long-distance telephone lines, and founded the first mutual water company in California.

In Ontario, Chaffey integrated his four key principles: wide-scale irrigation of the land, construction of one main thoroughfare, establishment of Chaffey College as a branch of the University of southern California and prohibition of liquor sales.

In 1901 George Chaffey designed and built 150 miles of canal from the Colorado River to Imperial California.

In 1942, ten years after his death, the U.S. Navy launched a Liberty Ship in San Pedro named the SS George Chaffey.

It is an honor to pay tribute to this dedicated individual who through his vision and foresight helped to make the Inland Empire, and indeed California the dynamic and liveable places that they are today.

## ABORTION'S CHILDREN

**HON. JIM TALENT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I request the following eloquent article be inserted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the New York Times, Jan. 22, 1998]

(By Peggy Noonan)

On the 25th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, we know certain facts. We know that at this point about 1.5 million abortions are performed each year in the United States. And we know that the fight over whether legalized abortion should continue has not waned with time, as many thought it would, but grown.

The debate has always been by adults about adults. What are the effects on women when they terminate a pregnancy? Do they suffer unusual depression a year or two after the procedure?

Opponents of abortion also talk about the effects of abortion on the fetus being aborted. Does it feel pain?

But there is another group of children who have been overlooked in the debate—the children who have grown up in the abortion culture, the children now 10 or 15 or even 20 years old who have had it drummed into them by television and radio and in magazines, what abortion is and why and how it became legal. It is part of the aural wallpaper of their lives. They have grown up knowing phrases like “abortion on demand” and “the right to abortion” and hearing nice adults, the people next door, talk about supporting politicians who will “protect” these “rights.”

I wonder if such talk has not left many of these children confused, so deeply that they do not even know they are confused, and morally dulled.

We all know the recent horror stories. According to prosecutors and news accounts, a girl at a prom delivers a baby in the bathroom and lets it die, then rearranges herself, washes up and goes back to the dance. A pair of college-aged lovers from “good families” in “pricy suburbs,” as news accounts put it, rent a motel room, where he delivers their child, which they throw into a Dumpster.

Is it too much to see a connection between the abortion culture in which these young people came of age and the moral dullness they are accused of displaying? Of course, such crimes have occurred throughout time; history and literature are full of them. But what is new, I think, is the apparent surprise of the young girl at the prom, and of the young couple at the motel, at the disapproval society has shown toward them.

And why should society disapprove? What, after all, is the difference between what the girl at the prom is accused of doing and a late-term abortion, something she would have heard discussed, explained and defended on television and in the newspaper?

A late-term abortion means pulling a fully formed but not yet born baby out of the womb, piercing its brain with scissors, sucking out the brain, collapsing the skull and then removing the dead baby. In the girl's home state, New Jersey, this was legal. Why wouldn't she think there is no difference, really, between that and choking a baby to death in a bathroom stall and then dropping it in a trash bin? And what, in fact, is the difference? Only that one death occurred in a bathroom stall, and the other happened in a hospital with clean white sheets and a doctor.

Consider, too, the young couple in the motel and the reasoning that may have left them free of any sense of sin or crime. If the accusations are true, what did they do that was wrong besides refuse to suck into life an inconvenient baby? Isn't that what the culture they were born into, and grew to young adulthood in, does?

I think that's the great ignored story—what we have done to our children by legalizing abortion and championing it. The daily abortion stories and abortion polls and abortion editorials and abortion pictures and stories showing how the movement to “protect these rights” is faring—all this has drummed into their heads the idea that human life is not special, is not sanctified, is not a life formed by God but a fertilized ovum that makes demands and can be removed.

What we teach the young every day is moral confusion about the worth of an ordinary human life. This has wounded, in a very real and personal way, big pieces of an entire generation. And I suspect it has left them frightened, too.

## IN MEMORY OF DAVID E. PHILIPS

**HON. SAM GEJDENSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness to pay tribute to David E. Philips, a man who will be long remembered as a unique person who enjoyed sharing his many talents, not only with those close to him, but with his entire community.

Mr. Philips was a dedicated professor of English at Eastern Connecticut State University from 1962 until his retirement in 1991. Beloved by faculty and students alike, he brought more to his university than just a specialized knowledge of Connecticut folklore. An academic and an historian, Mr. Philips also devoted himself to the personal betterment of his students in the name of true higher education. His legacy, not only as an inspirational professor, but as an inspirational man, will long be remembered throughout his community.

After serving in the United States Navy during World War II, Mr. Philips returned home and became active in civic affairs. His hard work was pivotal for the planning and development of the new “Frog” bridge in Willimantic. Serving as a member of the Windham Board of Education from 1971 to 1979, Mr. Philips expounded an exceptional amount of effort to ensure the best possible future for the children of eastern Connecticut.

Not limiting himself to educational issues, Mr. Philips also donated further time and energy to the Democratic Town Committee and was chairman of the town planning commission. Spending his summers in Trenton, ME, he was contributing editor of *Down East Magazine* for 25 years.

An extraordinary individual, Mr. Philips was a powerful storyteller who brought joy to audiences of all ages with his remarkable ability. Author of the book, *Legendary Connecticut*, Mr. Philips joyfully shared his passion for folklore with the entire community.

Mr. Speaker, it is a rare man that can devote his life to things he loves while contributing so much to the community at the same time. David E. Philips will be missed by everyone he touched, but most of all by his two sons Evan and Donald and the rest of the Philips family.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE RHINOCEROS AND TIGER CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1998

**HON. DON YOUNG**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce legislation to reauthorize a landmark conservation law known as the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act.

This historic legislation, which was enacted into law four years ago, was modeled after the highly successful African Elephant Conservation Act of 1988. The fundamental purpose of this law was to establish a Conservation Fund to finance worthwhile projects to assist highly imperiled species of rhinos and tigers. Sadly, the populations of these two flagship species continue to decline and, unless additional assistance is provided, they will continue to slide toward extinction.

In the case of the rhinoceros, it has been estimated that their population has been decimated from 65,000 animals in 1970 to less than 11,000 today. In fact, in the case of two of the five species of rhinoceros, the Javan and Sumatran, there are less than 600 left in the world. While all five species of rhinoceros were listed on Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1977 and a worldwide trade ban has been imposed, poachers continue to slaughter rhinos for their horns. These horns have been used for generations in Asian medicine to treat fever in children and as decorative handles for ceremonial daggers.

Despite plummeting populations of rhinoceros, there is still an insatiable demand for rhino horn, which has made this commodity extremely valuable. In fact, African rhino horn can be worth as much as \$10,000 per kilogram and rare Asian rhino horn is worth up to \$60,000 per kilogram. The largest consumers of rhino horn live in China, Taiwan, and South Korea.

Regrettably the situation facing tigers is even worse. Of the eight subspecies of tigers once found in the world, three have become extinct and the remaining five populations have been reduced from 100,000 tigers in 1990 to less than 5,000 animals today. Furthermore, the three subspecies of South China, Siberian and Sumatran all have populations that are estimated at less than 500 animals.

Although commercial activities and human population growth have transformed large amounts of the tiger's habitat, illegal hunting has had the most dramatic impact. Despite the fact that all tigers are protected under CITES, tigers are killed for their fur and most of their body parts. Tiger bone is used in many forms of traditional Oriental medicines including powders, tablets, and wines that are consumed to fight pain, kidney and liver problems, convulsions, and heart conditions. Like rhino horn, the major consumers of these products live in China, Taiwan, and South Korea. According to CITES, during the past six years, South Korea imported about 10,500 pounds and China 78 tons of tiger bone.

Sadly, the financial rewards of illegally killing a tiger are substantial. According to the World Wildlife Fund, a pound of tiger bone sells for

over \$1,400 and a tiger pelt may be worth up to \$15,000. It is essential this market be destroyed and that people who live in the tigers' habitat begin to understand the consequences of exterminating an animal that has such a dramatic impact on so many other species.

These were fundamental goals of the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994. While it is still too early to tell whether this law will stop the population decline, it is clear that unless the United States takes a proactive leadership role in saving these species, they will soon only exist in remote wild locations or in zoos.

Since its enactment, the Congress has appropriated \$1 million over the last three fiscal years. While this is considerably less than the \$30 million that was authorized, this money has funded 24 conservation projects to assist rhinos and tigers at a Federal cost of about \$530,000. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is now evaluating an additional 70 proposals from organizations that are interested in helping to conserve these irreplaceable species.

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it has funded 12 rhino projects, 6 tiger projects, and 6 projects that will benefit both species. These projects have included: an adopt-a-warden program in Indonesia; aerial monitoring of the Northern white rhinoceros in Zaire; establishment of a community rhino scout program for the survival of the black rhino populations in Kenya; investigation of poaching and illegal trade in wild tigers in India; a tiger community education program in Indonesia; and training of staff and surveys of four black rhino populations in the Selous Game Reserve in Tanzania. The sponsors of these projects, who are likely to match the grants with private funds, include the International Rhino Foundation, the Minnesota Zoo Foundation, and the World Wildlife Fund.

Based on the success of the African Elephant Conservation Fund, I am hopeful that these grants will make a positive difference in the fight to conserve rhinos and tigers.

Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Reauthorization Act, a bill to extend this landmark law for four years in the hope that it will help ensure that these vital species do not disappear from this planet.

#### “THE ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE IMF IN THE ASIAN FINANCIAL CRISIS”

**HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, in the coming weeks, the U.S. Congress will be debating the role and policies of the International Monetary Fund and how or whether the United States should support this international institution. The context will be the Administration's request for \$3.5 billion for the New Arrangements to Borrow and \$14.5 billion for an IMF quota increase, or capital replenishment.\*\*\*HD\*\*\*Background

Before turning to the heart of this debate, a brief background is in order. First, the New Arrangements to Borrow, or NAB, came about subsequent to the Mexican peso crisis of 1994–95. The United States led that rescue

effort, with the assistance of the international institutions and other concerned nations. At U.S. urging, the G–7 Heads of State at the Halifax Summit in June 1995 called on the G–10 and other countries with financial capacity to develop a financial program that would have the capacity to handle future crises in the international financial system. Exactly one year ago today, the IMF Executive Directors approved the proposal for the NAB with 25 initial country participants. These countries potentially committed about \$49 billion in lines of credit to be made available on an emergency basis if IMF ordinary funds need to be supplemented in a crisis. The U.S. contribution of \$3.5 billion is equivalent to 19.74 percent share of the NAB.

Second, the proposed \$14.5 billion U.S. contribution to the IMF's capital base (about \$200 billion)—composed of member-countries subscriptions or quotas—is necessary for two reasons. First, IMF usable quota resources available to member countries has dwindled to about \$43 billion. With the current IMF Stand-By programs committed to Asia—Korea, \$21 billion (total package \$57 billion); Indonesia; \$10 billion (total package \$43 billion); Thailand, \$4 billion (total \$17 billion); Philippines, \$1 billion—IMF resources will be nearly depleted.

These Asia commitments underscore the second reason for the quota increase. When the IMF was established in 1944, its quotas and capital base were much larger relative to the size of the global economy. As the global economy has expanded, the IMF's resources have not kept pace, thus eroding its financial effectiveness. If we want the IMF to continue its role as the world's principal monetary authority with the responsibility of stabilizing the international financial system, it must have sufficient resources to credibly do so.\*\*\*HD\*\*\*The Risks of U.S. Inaction Far Transcend The Risks of Action

In determining how it will respond to the Asia crisis, the U.S. faces a pivotal choice. We can either use our central role in the international economic community to restore economic stability in Asia and safeguard the potential for economic growth there and at home. Or we can stand by as regional financial crisis blights the economic prospects of affected countries and their people, and simply hope it will not spread.

There are risks both in interceding, or in doing nothing, and letting the market dictate the consequences. I believe the risks of inaction are far greater.

Inaction would be contrary to what should be a central tenet of U.S. and IMF policies—halting the precipitous decline of Asian, and other regions', currencies. Continued currency depreciation will only exacerbate the deteriorating Asian domestic economies. Inevitably, that pain will spread to our own economy, in the form of lost export sales and investments, market turmoil, and increased unemployment. Absent intervention, competitive devaluations are much more likely to occur, doing further damage to the global trading system. If we are to protect that system, currency stabilization—and even appreciation of some of these currencies, which have plunged to all time lows against the dollar—is an imperative.

Inaction also carries the risk of spreading economic upheaval to other regions, including Latin America, Russia, and Eastern Europe. Many of these countries are already struggling

to maintain economic growth and stability. In many cases, they have initiated reforms with IMF assistance, and are making serious progress. The spread of the Asian financial turmoil could prove enormously costly to them as well.

Inaction carries the risk not only of economic turmoil, but of significant social and political disruption. To a limited extent, this has already begun. A further economic free-fall could precipitate political and social chaos.

The social impact of declining economies is most severe, not on the affluent or well-connected, but on the middle-class and poor. To be sure, inappropriately austere economic stabilization programs—whether IMF-sponsored or not—can also hurt a broad spectrum of society, bringing lost jobs, closed businesses, higher interest rates, and lost purchasing power. But allowing an economy spiraling downward to take its natural course without remedial action could cause far, far greater hardship.

The final risk of inaction is the unacceptable abrogation of U.S. influence and leadership in Asia. The United States has argued that its geo-political and economic interests lie in considerable part in Asia. It has repeatedly sought to demonstrate its commitment in a variety of fora—such as the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation platform—despite Asia's perception of a U.S. preoccupation with Latin America and Europe. We can now either affirm our commitment to Asia, or give the lie to these previous efforts.

With U.S. leadership, international institutions have been established to respond to global military crises, such as the United Nations role in Iraq, Bosnia, etc. When global economic crises arise, the International Monetary Fund is the institution empowered by the international community to take action. Just as the United States expects the United Nations to take action when military threats to world peace emerge, we must do our part to support the International Monetary Fund—the only available institution that can act when the threats to global stability are economic. In a time of world economic crisis, the United States cannot default on its economic leadership.\*\*\*HD\*\*\*The Political Challenge

Convincing the Congress and the American people that continued support for the International Monetary Fund is essential will be a difficult political challenge.

Our challenge is to make clear to U.S. taxpayers and public officials the economic consequences of not supporting the IMF. If the IMF does not intervene, U.S. taxpayers, business and labor will face serious consequences: further falling Asian currencies and a further rising U.S. dollar; a still greater tide of imports and larger trade deficits; and further falling stock-market prices, affecting pensions, savings, consumer behavior, etc.

Critics of the IMF—including both Democrats and Republicans in Congress—also contend that IMF programs are “excessively austere,” with harsh impacts on citizens; that IMF program results are questionable, since countries return to the IMF for repeated reform efforts; and that IMF programs lack discernible development progress. Some of these criticisms are warranted. But legitimate complaints can be lodged against almost any institution. A narrow focus on these problems ignores the stark reality that we need some international

institution to cope with stresses in the global financial system, and we need that institution now.

The IMF may not be a perfect tool, but it is the only tool we have. It needs fixing, but not junking. And we cannot fix the problems of the IMF in the midst of a crisis. We must use the IMF as constructively as possible to respond to the crisis in the short term. As the crisis abates, we can then accelerate the discussion and debate about the nature of the institutional changes that might be necessary in today's global economy.

The United States' responsibility does not end with its participation in resolving the current crisis. We must continue to exert our influence and leadership among the 182 countries of the IMF. As the world's largest economy, greatest military power, and foreign-policy leader, the United States has the potential to use both its voice and its vote to make the IMF a more effective international institution in the new century. But the United States cannot expect to shape an institution we abandon at the first sign of crisis.

In re-examining the IMF, the key questions we must consider are how to best shape the IMF for its role in a globalized society, and how the IMF should work with member countries when economic adjustments are needed. In the present financial crisis, the Fund's central tool is so-called conditionality, the IMF's ability to require specific reforms of the country seeking IMF support.

I believe there are at least five core elements of conditionality that the U.S. and IMF should promote in the context of the current crisis.

1. *Currency stabilization is critical.* The markets may have over-reacted to economic conditions in Asian countries with such extreme depreciation of currencies. The Asian economies are fundamentally sound, and with corrective policies they should rebound. Compared to the Latin America economic crisis in the 1980s, when macroeconomic indicators were negative, Asian economies have benefited for over a decade from strong GDP growth; have current-account surpluses or small deficits relative to GDP; have strong savings rates—35 percent in Korea; have had low inflation, most often between 4–9 percent; have high investment rates; and have no or relatively small public-sector debt problems. It is therefore critical that the IMF's primary goal should be to stabilize currencies. Surely, agreement should be reached to avoid competitive devaluations that will further destabilize the international financial and trading systems.

2. *The IMF must also seek vast improvements in the financial services sectors of countries using IMF Stand-By instruments.* The IMF should seek agreement from the affected countries to reform the laws and regulations governing their domestic financial institutions so that they meet generally accepted international standards. This would include laws to ensure adequate capital and reserves, adequate oversight, and standards for transparency. Lack of transparency is a contributing factor to the current Asian crisis—making unavailable accurate debt data, information regarding conglomerate-banking ties, etc.

I offer one caveat regarding this element of conditionality, however. We must demand significant improvement in the operation of financial institutions in the affected countries. How-

ever, we should not require troubled institutions to improve totally and immediately—or die. Nor should we judge the success of a reform program by the number of institutions closed. Such shock therapy could lead to a country's economic convulsion. What we do need is deliberate speed. And we need significant, measurable and constant improvement leading in a short but reasonable period of time to the standards we agree upon.

3. *The economies of these countries must be open.* The IMF must insist on economic reforms that open economies to both internal and external competition. Assisted countries must be open to competition, trade, investment, and capital flows—domestically and internationally. Small domestic businesses and international companies must not be excluded from open market competition because of collusion among conglomerates, governments, and financing institutions. The use of overt trade and investment barriers, or indirect regulatory schemes, to exclude outside competition must not be tolerated. The IMF should insist on fundamental reforms that create the environment for open and fair competition.

Moreover, the U.S. should insist that the IMF put maximum pressure on other industrial countries to import more from Asia during this crisis. The U.S. cannot be expected to substantially increase its imports unless others are willing to bear a comparable burden.

4. *The economic prescriptions for each country must be appropriate to each country.*

One size will not fit all. The IMF has been criticized by both the left and the right for imposing draconian fiscal policies and conditions that hurt the citizens of the country who are least able to cope with the consequences. These are difficult judgment calls. Sometimes, the IMF-imposed conditions have been well advised; other times, they may have been misguided. Each country must be dealt with differently.

Thailand was to have a budget surplus of 1 percent of GDP by the end of March 1998, but the continued decline of the baht forced Thai authorities to request adjustment of this IMF condition. Similarly, fiscal conditionality required Indonesia to reach a budget surplus of 1–1.5 percent of GDP and a current-account deficit reduced to 2 percent of GDP. This requirement was changed to a budget deficit of 1–1.5 percent in the agreement most recently announced by IMF Managing Director Camdessus on January 15. In Indonesia, the IMF admitted in a confidential report on January 13 that its tactics—in this case, 16 bank closings—backfired, and deepened rather than helped the crisis.

When developing fiscal requirements as part of the IMF conditionality, one formula cannot fit all countries. And the Asian case differs from most previous IMF Stand-By situations in that public profligacy has largely not been the source of the problem. Most governments have maintained a reasonable balance between expenditures and revenues.

Under such circumstances, the IMF must be careful not to impose tax increases or budget cuts that are not warranted. Although some officials may characterize a budget surplus requirement of 1.5 percent of GDP as “modest,” the impact on citizens could be considerable. Consider the impact of cutting the U.S. budget deficit by 1.5 percent of GDP in five months. I doubt that we could comply, economically, socially, or politically.

We must all keep in mind that economies exist for people, not the other way around. The IMF should be especially cautious about imposing fiscal constraints on a government when the “fiscal imprudence” has been centered in the private sector, not only in the countries needing IMF support, but in the private financial sectors outside that country, whether in Japan and Germany—whose banks are most exposed in Asia—or in the United States.

5. Finally, existing creditors should be expected to bear an appropriate financial burden. While the U.S. cannot and should not attempt to legislate those IMF requirements, nonetheless that should be the policy of both the U.S. and IMF. Public perception that IMF assistance will privatize creditors, profits and socialize their losses will erode public and Congressional support faster than anything else. And that is understandable. It simply does not appear fair or legitimate to use IMF resources to hold banks and investors harmless, or to shield them from the consequences of poor judgment in loans and investments.

To a certain extent, assisting creditors is inherent in any policy of intervention. However, historically, the United States has insisted that creditors sustain meaningful sacrifices or losses as part of any rescue package, whether in the New York City rescue, the Chrysler loan guarantee, the Brady bonds, etc. Brady bonds, e.g., were deeply discounted in the secondary markets.

This is where the IMF can be very useful. The Fund can and should play a legitimate role as intermediary in private-sector creditor-debtor discussions. The IMF has the capacity—and experience—to serve as a facilitator and honest broker during debt negotiations. Nor would this be a new role for the Fund.

During the 1980's debt reschedulings with Latin America, the IMF did help broker the terms of the deals. In a situation such as Asia's, the IMF could play a similar role. In fact, public statements of support for that concept would assist countries, such as Korea, attempting to guarantee future loans. The application of this policy could significantly mitigate the “moral hazard” of intervention; and also help in garnering political support for U.S. participation in the IMF.

In the 1980s, I proposed establishing an International Debt Management Facility, and included it as part of the Omnibus Trade Act of 1986. Unfortunately, President Reagan vetoed that bill, in part because of that provision. The concept would have allowed for voluntary disposition by creditors of loans to heavily indebted sovereign borrowers in a way that would enable purchase at a discount in secondary markets. It may be timely to inject the principles of this original proposal into a new role for the IMF as a de facto referee in bankruptcy—a facilitator of a rearrangement of the debtor-creditor relationship.\*\*\*HD\*\*\*Political Support for the IMF—High Level Outside Effort Required

In the current political environment, it will not be easy to pass legislation that provides new funding for the IMF. To accomplish this, I believe that the White House must launch a concentrated political effort, as it has in past high-profile and critical legislative efforts. Eminent persons of both Democratic and Republican backgrounds should co-chair a campaign to pass IMF funding legislation. If possible, individuals such as former Treasury Secretaries

James Baker, Nicholas Brady, Lloyd Bentsen and William Miller might be appropriate candidates.\*\*\*HD\*\*\*Reaching Out to Both Business and Labor for Support

As part of its concentrated effort, the Administration must reach out to both the business and labor communities.

The deteriorating economies of Asia will necessarily impact U.S. corporations and the economic climate in which they operate. Many U.S. companies are already reducing their earnings projections because of anticipated fall-out from the Asia situation.

Countries in Asia that are currently in crisis both buy U.S. products and services, and compete to provide them. Economic instability and the depreciating currencies that accompany it will ultimately have an adverse impact on U.S. exports, increase the trade deficit, and put a brake on the economic growth we have been experiencing, all to the potential disadvantage of U.S. firms. It is in the business community's interest to get this crisis under control, and the Administration should seek strong and visible business support in that effort. That support must be significant, it must be broad-based, and it must be now—before opposition to IMF funding grows.

The Administration must also reach out to labor—either for overt support, or at least acquiescence. Labor has a divided approach to the IMF with respect to the Asia crisis. In the short term, labor is concerned that currency depreciation will cause export “dumping” in the U.S. as the only healthy economy that can take more goods. The U.S. trade deficit could soar to \$300 billion this year as a result of the currency crisis. As we have seen with the weakening Japanese yen, the U.S. auto industry has suffered: Ford's sales to Japan have dropped 40 percent.

U.S. labor wants the IMF to stabilize currencies as a means to avoid job losses resulting from trade imbalances. The Administration must demonstrate to labor that it understands these concerns. It must publicly exhort other nations to accept Asian imports as well. The Administration must also make clear to labor that it will enforce U.S. trade laws and support “escape clause” action that would provide relief in the form of temporary tariffs or quotas if imports in particular industries flood the U.S. market.

Labor has a different outlook on the IMF in regard to medium-term issues, however. It opposes what it views as extreme IMF-imposed austerity that slows down economies, closes businesses, and creates mass unemployment in societies. U.S. workers ultimately suffer when U.S. businesses lose overseas contracts, exports dwindle, and stock markets fall. Already, the U.S. has lost orders—Boeing had four aircraft canceled—and Stone and Webster Engineering had their contract for a refinery project in Indonesia canceled. U.S. labor must be assured of our government's commitment to help find the proper balance between necessary reform and continued economic expansion.

The Administration must also take a more active and high-profile role in promoting international labor standards. To be sure, the Clinton Administration has done more than past Administrations to promote international labor rights. But it has not done nearly enough. The Administration should be promoting international labor rights in every forum possible, and at every opportunity.

I believe that we must either help the people of the world bring their standards up, or their lower standards will eventually bring ours down. For that very reason, commitment to an improvement of international labor standards is essential if we are to achieve any domestic political support for either the IMF or future trade agreements.

In pressing this issue, however, the U.S. would have far greater credibility if we first ratified more of the International Labor Organization's Conventions. The ILO has adopted 175 Conventions; the United States has ratified but 11. All but one of the 11 relates to technical or maritime issues. By comparison, the typical member of the European Union has ratified 70 ILO Conventions. At a minimum, the President should propose that Congress ratify those Conventions relating to employment discrimination, child labor, the right to organize, and the right to bargain collectively. If the Administration demonstrated its commitment to international labor standards through specific strong actions, it would be better able to persuade labor to support its effort to fund the International Monetary Fund and future trade agreements.\*\*\*HD\*\*\*Conclusion

It is no exaggeration to say that the U.S. reaction to the Asia crisis and to the IMF's pressing needs will be a defining moment in our global economic and political leadership. If we behave as we did when the League of Nations was being formed—hold back, quibble about the fine points, and eventually refuse to participate—we risk the same result. We may again see the fatal crippling of an international institution that is currently essential to the economic and political functioning of an increasingly interdependent world.

It is not just U.S. leadership in the abstract that is at stake. If the U.S. does not respond pro-actively and responsibly to this crisis, the economic well-being of U.S., Asian and other countries' citizens will be put in serious jeopardy as the global economic climate deteriorates. We live in an interdependent global economy in which the economic crises of other countries cannot be neatly compartmentalized and held at bay.

Politically, philosophically and practically, the U.S. and its citizens have a great deal to lose if we permit regional economic problems to reverberate around the globe unaddressed. It is incumbent upon this country's political, business and labor leadership to do everything possible to ensure the situation does not deteriorate to that point.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE BUD SHUSTER

##### HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my fellow Pennsylvanian, colleague and good friend, Congressman BUD SHUSTER, on the occasion of his twenty-fifth year of excellent service in the United States House of Representatives as the Representative of the good people of the Ninth Congressional District of Pennsylvania. BUD was victorious in seeking his first term of office in November 1972 and the rest is history. As president of the Freshman Class of 1973, BUD

SHUSTER brought to Congress his vision of economic prosperity for Central Pennsylvania and a true commitment to the nation's infrastructure. To this end, he has been the principal author of much of America's transportation legislation. On January 4, 1995, BUD became Chairman of the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, the largest committee in the U.S. Congress.

I am honored to join in making this tribute his Congressional Staff, past and present, who share a common bond of great respect for their “boss” for his unparalleled service to his constituents, his skilled mastery of the legislative process, and for his dedicated mission to provide a better standard of living for Pennsylvania and for the United States of America. He is a leader of the first order whose ideas are clear and whose goals remain constant. He is a man whose strength sustains his colleagues and those staffers who have served him throughout these past twenty five years of American history.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Congressman BUD SHUSTER, a native son of Pennsylvania, on his twenty five years of excellent service in Congress.

#### TRIBUTE TO TONY GRIFFIN

##### HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to a great journalist, a community leader, a dear friend, but most importantly of all, a father and beloved husband.

Tony Griffin succumbed to cancer on December 30, 1997 only a few weeks after being diagnosed. It is rare that a single voice makes such an impact on so many people, in so many different ways. But Tony Griffin was just such an outstanding individual.

As news and public affairs director at WMUK in Kalamazoo, Michigan, he was all a reporter should be—aggressive, accurate and fair. An alumnus of Western Michigan University, Tony returned home to his alma mater to work at the university's National Public Radio station. He would have celebrated his 25th service anniversary with the station in March of this year.

Under his direction, WMUK won a wall full of prestigious awards, including recognition by the Voice of America, Michigan Associated Press, the Public Radio News Directors, and the Michigan Bar Association.

He built his career and reputation as a dogged, shrewd journalist. A healthy dose of skepticism coupled with voracious appetite for the truth wrapped around a sharp wit and always generous laugh. But the Tony we all knew and loved was more than just a journalist.

Tony took time-out on the other side of the microphone to serve his community. He lent his enormous skills and energies to the local Red Cross, Van Buren County Community Corrections, and a host of other organizations dedicated to improving the quality of life in the Kalamazoo area. He truly cared about the community he represented.

Tony's leadership and dedication will be missed in each of these roles—but not nearly

as much as in his most important one. Tony leaves behind a wonderful wife and beautiful daughter. Over the years, my family grew close to Tony's. Our daughters are just a few years apart. We spent a great deal of time talking about the joys of fatherhood and our hopes and dreams for our daughters.

Shortly before Tony passed away, the two of us had an unforgettable discussion at his bedside. But as it became painfully clear that the end was near, Tony kept his love of life and sense of humor until the very end.

He explained to me what would happen if all politicians and leaders had received the same diagnosis he had. It would be amazing how quickly the mountains we've built between ourselves would come down. We'd realize that the important things—family, community, friends—really outshine everything else. Tony's words are an important lesson for us all.

His memory will continue to live in each of us and grow stronger as the days go by. The greatest tribute we can pay to this man is to care for our community, to fulfill our civic duties, love and support our families, and to understand his lesson.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues today to share with me in recognizing the accomplishments of a dear friend, Tony Griffin.

#### CHALLENGING WARD VALLEY RADIOACTIVE DUMP

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, along with Senator BARBARA BOXER and others in California, I have long been raising strong concerns about Ward Valley, the proposed nuclear waste dump being promoted for southern California. Not only are there serious questions about the environmental safety of the proposed facility, but now legitimate questions have been raised about whether the dump is really required at all.

Interior Secretary Babbitt and Deputy Secretary Garamendi have been taking the prudent approach, ordering additional environmental reviews based on credible questions about the potential leakage of highly radioactive wastes that could transmute and contaminate the Colorado River. Nuclear waste experts have declared that there is no need to build expensive new waste dumps as there is adequate storage capacity for low level wastes in existing facilities.

The pressure to move forward is coming from Governor Wilson of California and several of the industries that are also adamant about building Ward Valley. But even executives of the company that wants to build and operate Ward Valley have told numerous congressional staffs that there is no national capacity shortage for low level nuclear wastes.

Public opinion in California is growing in opposition to the Ward Valley facility. I hope that my colleagues will read the editorial from the Contra Costa Times of January 26 that rightly calls for caution before proceeding with this costly and potentially hazardous facility.

[From the Contra Costa Times, Jan. 26, 1998]

USE CAUTION IN THE DESERT

Neither Gov. Wilson nor anti-nuclear activists like the idea of more testing at Ward

Valley. But the Interior Department's plan to find out just how dangerous radioactive wastes are to the water supply merely makes good sense.

The Interior Department last week approved the tests at Ward Valley, a 1000-acre stretch of desert in the Mojave Desert, 20 miles west of the Colorado River and the town of Needles. For more than a decade there have been plans to dispose of so-called "low-level" radioactive wastes on 80 acres at the site. The waste would come from California, Arizona and North and South Dakota.

Low-level wastes include irradiated mice and gloves from research hospitals and pharmaceutical laboratories. There have been reports that Ward Valley also would get worn out parts from nuclear power plants, and materials with a "half-life" of 24,000 years. Currently nuclear waste is shipped for disposal at the nation's three dumps in Utah and South Carolina.

Before the dump can be approved, and used, the federal government must turn over the land to the state government. The Clinton administration has balked from the start at doing this, citing safety concerns. The Colorado River, they note, is a drinking source for millions of people.

Wilson claims enough tests have been run and that the site is safe. Clinton, noting leaks at dumps in Nevada, wants to be sure. His administration particularly wants to be convinced that the waste won't leach into groundwater 650 feet below the surface, and thence to the river. That is what the new tests would ascertain.

While the discussion over safety has been bubbling, information has surfaced that there may no longer be a need for Ward Valley, or for similar sites proposed for Nebraska, North Carolina, Ohio and Texas. A study by University of Nebraska economist Gregory Hayden asserts that there has been a 16-year decline in the volume of low level nuclear waste being disposed of in current dumps, and that their profitability would be threatened by Ward Valley. Some proponents of the dump have questioned Hayden's research.

In addition, new technology allowing for wastes to be compressed has increased storage capacity at Utah and South Carolina.

Given all these questions, it is hardly out of line to let the new tests proceed. And while the tests are going forth, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, the California Democrat who is the desert's greatest friend in Congress, has called for studies to see if Ward Valley is necessary at all. That, too, is prudent, before the state spends a ton of money developing it.

Ward Valley may yet end up as a site for disposing of nuclear waste. If it does, let's make sure that the materials to be deposited there pose no threat. Twenty-four thousand years is a long time for a water supply to be contaminated.

#### FUND-RAISING SCANDAL

**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member would ask his colleagues to consider carefully the following editorial from the December 4, 1997, edition of the *Omaha World-Herald*, entitled "Probe of Fund-Raising Scandal Snuffed on Narrowest Grounds."

PROBE OF FUND-RAISING SCANDAL SNUFFED  
ON NARROWEST GROUNDS

Attorney General Janet Reno used astonishingly narrow grounds to excuse her deci-

sion not to seek an independent counsel in the White House fund-raising scandal.

Even Louis Freeh, a former federal judge who is Ms. Reno's FBI director, urged the attorney general in effect to take off her political blinders and acknowledge the appearance of wrongdoing.

Ms. Reno chose to focus on campaign fund-raising phone calls that President Clinton and Vice President Gore made from the White House. She said the money raised by those calls did not go directly to the Clinton-Gore 1996 re-election campaign. Her tortured reasoning is that the money went to the Democratic National Committee for general political use and, therefore, was not covered by the law prohibiting candidates from raising campaign funds on federal property.

What about DNC documents indicating that significant chunks of the money Gore raised were transferred to his campaign? Never mind, says Ms. Reno; the vice president didn't know about that. Even on the narrow grounds that Ms. Reno used as a basis for her decision, her judgment is suspect.

An independent counsel—not a Clinton appointee—ought to determine what the vice president knew.

By limiting her attention to the narrow issue of the White House telephones, Ms. Reno ignored Clinton's role in coffees, sleepovers and the vast web of donors set up by John Haug, Charlie Trie and other operatives with ties to the Lippo group and the government of China.

She ignored the videotape on which Clinton explained to donors how they could get around limitations on direct contributions by giving unlimited amounts to the DNC. Ms. Reno may be the only person in the nation who still believes that the Clinton-Gore campaign kept its required legal distance from the DNC.

Ms. Reno also ignored serious allegations of wrongdoing involving the White House China connection. There are indications that the Chinese government had a purpose in using Huang, among others, to make illegal campaign contributions to the Clinton-Gore re-election campaign. Someone needs to find out what the Chinese expected in return.

Chinese intelligence agents boasted about "thwarting" a Senate investigation headed by Tennessee Republican Fred Thompson, who had set out to expose Chinese involvement in the '96 campaign. Lack of cooperation by the White House, the FBI and the Justice Department foiled the Thompson committee's inquiry.

Yet Ms. Reno sees no need for independent review—no need, apparently, to look at other serious allegations, including:

Whether the DNC arranged illegal foreign donations to then-Teamsters President Ron Carey in return for the Teamsters' financial and political support of Clinton-Gore '96.

Whether the White House shook down Indian tribes in Oklahoma seeking the return of tribal lands and overturned Interior Department approval of an Indian casino project along the Wisconsin-Minnesota border because tribes that already operated casinos in the area gave the DNC \$300,000.

Whether the DNC funneled \$32 million to state parties with orders to spend it on the Clinton-Gore campaign, thereby exceeding federal campaign spending limits.

Whether Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary met with a delegation of Chinese businessmen in return for a \$25,000 contribution to the charity of her choice.

Until The Washington Post wrote about it, Ms. Reno's staff did not know that money raised from the vice president's office had been spent directly on the vice president's campaign. Yet Ms. Reno focused only on the telephones. Her unfortunate decision left the



American people with no confidence that the fund-raising scandal will ever be subjected to the scrutiny it deserves.

A SALUTE TO ADMIRAL MARSHA EVANS

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rear Admiral Marsha J. Evans, a remarkable woman who served for the past two years as Superintendent of the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California before her recent retirement from the U.S. Navy.

Admiral Evans has accumulated a long and distinguished military career. In addition to her position as Superintendent, Admiral Evans' leadership experience includes command of the Naval Station at Treasure Island, Commander of Navy Recruiting Command, interim director of the Marshall European Center for Security Studies, Executive Officer at Recruit Training Command, and Commanding Officer at the Naval Technical Training Center. She has also served at the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, and the office of the Commander in Chief of U.S. Naval Forces Europe. Her extensive government experience includes serving as executive secretary and special assistant for the Secretary of the Treasury under President Carter, and serving as Deputy Director of the President Reagan's Commission on White House Fellowships.

Admiral Evans was not only a pioneer for women in the military, but a strong advocate for the needs and concerns of women. In addition to being the first (?) woman to reach the rank of Admiral, she was also the first female surface assignments officer in the Bureau of Naval Personnel. She was also active in gender-related issues, having served as Executive Director of Standing Committee on Military and Civilian Women in the Navy, chairing the Women Midshipmen Study Group in the 1980's, and serving on the 1987 Navy's Women's Study.

In September 1995, the Naval Postgraduate School was fortunate to have Admiral Evans appointed as Superintendent, and she did not disappoint. Under her leadership, the school further strengthened and developed its academic mission. It began exploring important new fields, such as how to prevent and contain the use of weapons of mass destruction, and expanded such programs as its successful international officer exchange program at the Center for Civil-Military Relations.

Most recently, under Admiral Evans' direction the Naval Postgraduate School hosted a military-wide conference on Professional Military Education, which successfully brought together leading military and civilian educators and policy-makers from around the country to discuss how best to educate our soldiers to fight the conflicts of the future.

Admiral Evans is a remarkable leader and pioneer, and I am sorry to see her depart as Superintendent of the Naval Postgraduate School. The Navy is losing a fine officer and outstanding individual, and her presence will be greatly missed. I wish her the best in her

new endeavors, and urge other young, aspiring women and men in the military to look to Admiral Evans' great service as a model for success and leadership.

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN GASKA

**HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the outstanding career and accomplishments of Susan Gaska who is retiring after thirteen years as Chief Executive Officer of the Western New York chapter of the Young Women's Christian Association. Ms. Gaska's many years of service have had a profound effect not only on the YWCA but on the entire Western New York Community.

Through her diligent, forthright leadership, Susan brought the YWCA from the brink of bankruptcy in 1986 to a full service organization with a \$5 million operating budget in 1998. Although this is a remarkable accomplishment in itself, it tells only part of the story.

The YWCA of Western New York was established in 1870 and traditionally served the community as a temporary shelter for women. But, Susan Gaska envisioned a YWCA that would empower women who are struggling with domestic violence, single parenthood, and illness by giving them long-term solutions to immediate problems such as child care, housing, and health care. To that end Susan has been in the forefront of developing workable solutions to these difficult problems that so many women face every day.

Thanks to seven years of coalition building, fund-raising, needs assessment and planning under Susan's leadership the YWCA now provides safe, affordable day care to over 1,000 children per day. Three notable day care clinics have been established, one each at the County and State Supreme Court building, and at Erie County Medical and Children's Hospital. These centers grant mothers peace of mind, secure in the knowledge that their children are safe and well cared for.

In addition, the YWCA has become an innovator in establishing the first transitional housing program in our area. This program helps move women who are victims of domestic abuse from shelters to apartments operated by the YWCA, on a case-managed basis. Susan has also worked to secure government funds to turn former school 42 in Buffalo into a multi-generational, multicultural facility. That building has been renovated to accommodate 65 low-income housing units designed for senior citizens, as well as space for elder care, child care and much-needed after school programs.

Susan also took the initiative to help establish EncorePlus, a no-cost recovery program for women diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer. In addition, working with local hospitals, Susan was able to establish free diagnostic exams for those women aged 40 and over who have little or no insurance. She has also been personally involved in fighting discrimination, founding the YWCA Racial Justice Committee and courageously offering space in the YWCA to the Gay and Bisexual Youth services organization.

These accomplishments alone are worthy of high praise, but Susan Gaska's efforts have

extended into the political realm as well. More than 216 women have graduated from the Institute for Public Leadership, designed by Susan to teach political skills to women. Twenty-three of the Institute's graduates have won public office and many more are likely to do so in the years to come.

I am pleased to join the YWCA and the people of Western New York to honor the extraordinary career of Susan Gaska, a woman who made a difference in our community and in the lives of countless young women who came to the Y for help. She helped to change their lives and our community for the better. In short, Susan has shown us what good works can be accomplished with vision, commitment, and leadership. Mr. Speaker, I commend the career and achievement of Susan Gaska to the attention of all Members of the House.

TRIBUTE TO PATTY BRISSENDEN

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the fiftieth birthday of Patty Brissenden. I have personally known Patty for 17 years. Patty was one of my first employees when I was elected to the California State Assembly in 1980. Her energy, dedication and follow-through on issues in Santa Cruz county were invaluable.

Having seen first hand her charismatic dedication, it was not surprising that she was active in many issues. During her time with me Patty successfully worked on organic food legislation, steel jaw traps legislation, extended Medi-Cal for individuals with Multiple Sclerosis, elders in residence at U.C. Santa Cruz, petition to ban off shore oil, and highway 17 safety barriers. In the office Patty set high standards for responsiveness, casework management, and office outreach.

Patty organized the Bill Clinton/Al Gore (1992 and 1996) presidential campaign for Alpine County and co-founded the Sierra Nevada Alliance. As an owner of Sorensen's Resort in Hope Valley, in the Sierra Nevada, Patty has helped transform the former roadside inn to a widely-acclaimed travel destination. She is a frequent presenter at the professional Association of Innkeepers International on topics of eco-tourism, health care, and destination marketing.

Patty and I remain friends and she continues to work with me on issues such as; logging, tourism, environment, and conservation. In all of her efforts, Patty demonstrates compassion, advocacy for the individual in need, a sense of justice and the understanding that problems can be solved by bringing diverse groups together to work on a solution. Today I celebrate Patty's 50th birthday by wishing her continued happiness and success.

HONORING SHIRLEY GRALLA

**HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents and the friends



and family of the Milton and Shirley Gralla family as they come together to celebrate Shirley being awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Yeshiva University.

Shirley Gralla's story is that of a child of Eastern European Jewish immigrant parents who came to America. Through her many talents, keen insight and most compassionate nature, Shirley has succeeded in giving aid and hope to those people seeking to come to America and experience the blessings of freedom and prosperity that she has experienced. For more than a decade Shirley Gralla has been recognized as an international leader in assisting refugee families trapped in the former Soviet Union. More recently, Shirley Gralla has become immersed in a comprehensive approach to provide Jewish education and communal services for such refugee families in the United States.

Mrs. Gralla has striven mightily to provide the emotional stability and compassion these people need to establish new and successful lives in America. In conjunction with her husband Milton, a Trustee of Yeshiva University, Mrs. Gralla has initiated a "Celebration of Religious Freedom," enabling Soviet Jewish couples who have immigrated to the United States to be remarried in traditional religious ceremonies denied them under the Communist regime. These ceremonies have taken place throughout the United States as well as Canada and Israel.

Shirley Gralla has consistently demonstrated that she can not only develop dynamic and far-reaching programs, but also roll up her sleeves and join in making things happen. In 1985, with her husband Milton, they sponsored a "Freedom Flight" of Soviet Jews from Bucharest to Israel and personally accompanied these refugees aboard the plane. As more and more Eastern European Jewish emigres obtained their freedom through the demise of the Soviet Union, Mrs. Gralla has extended her efforts and resources to assist and help stabilize these people through educational support programs at Yeshiva University and elsewhere. The Grallas have recently endowed a scholarship fund at Yeshiva University for such students. In addition, Mrs. Gralla and her husband have become Yeshiva University Benefactors by endowing the Gralla Family Research Center for Brain Disorders at the University's Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

It is in the truest tradition of our great country that we give of ourselves freely to assist others. Shirley Gralla has taken this timeless tradition and filled the lives of countless people with love, hope, stability and a realization that even in the darkest moments of one's being there will always be hope. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise with me in honoring this great woman.

#### TRIBUTE TO SANTO SCRUFARI

##### HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a great Western New Yorker, Santo Salvatore Scrufari. As a laborer, carpenter, foreman, and superintendent, Santo has played a critical role in enriching the econ-

omy of Western New York. As an active member and an officer of Local 280 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America since 1964, Santo has spent decades helping his fellow union members and improving the lives of working families throughout the region. And finally, as my cousin, Santo has proven to be a trusted friend and family member.

The new year marked the retirement of Santo Scrufari, bringing to a close over 35 years of distinguished service. Santo's career began in 1962, as a laborer for the Scrufari Construction Company. Between 1962 and 1970, he quickly moved through the ranks, becoming an apprentice carpenter, then graduating to journeyman carpenter, and finally becoming a carpenter foreman. In 1970, Santo moved to the Smith Brothers Construction Company, where he served as a superintendent through 1979. Finally, Santo served as a general superintendent for the Peter Scrufari Company from 1979 through 1984.

These positions allowed Santo to play an important role in the construction or renovation of several major projects in our community. These building projects, which have all had a major impact on Western New York, include the North Tonawanda Library, Niagara University, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, the Wheatfield Salvage Treatment Plant, the Channel 29 TV Station, and several malls, departments stores, and supermarkets.

But this tells only part of the Santo Scrufari story, for he has also been an active and influential union member for well over 30 years. Santo first joined Local 280 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America in September 1964, and quickly distinguished himself as a champion of workers' rights. Throughout his tenure as a proud union man, Santo held numerous positions of great importance to the union and its members. From serving as Secretary of the Apprenticeship Committee, then as Vice President, and finally as President of Local 280, Santo has touched the lives of hundreds of workers and, in turn, their families.

Santo's union service culminated in 1996, when he was appointed as the Director of Construction Organizing for the Western New York Regional Council of the Carpenters Union. In this and all other positions that Santo has held, he has proven to be a staunch defender of workplace fairness and safety, and other fundamental worker rights that we now take for granted.

Mr. Speaker, anyone who has come into contact with Santo Scrufari can attest to his dedication to the labor movement. Indeed, he will be sorely missed. As both his Congressman and his cousin, I would like to offer my very best wishes to Santo and his wonderful wife, Charlene, for a happy, healthy, and well-deserved retirement.

#### TRIBUTE TO HOWARD MARCUS

##### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who devoted his life to this country, his community, and his family. Howard Marcus's commitment to service

began when he joined Peace Corps and continued throughout his life with an active involvement in local sports. He was a coach, a fundraiser, and a friend.

Howard was a partner with Newman & Marcus & Clarenback, Attorneys at Law. He obtained his law degree from the Brooklyn Law School, and his undergraduate degree from Hofstra University. He has served the community in innumerable ways for the past twenty years.

Howard was a Peace Corps volunteer in Colombia from 1967-68, where he devoted a year of his life to helping the poor help themselves. Howard's service will be always be remembered in Colombia by those he touched. We on the Central Coast will forever remember and be thankful for the influence his service had on him. As happens with most Peace Corps Volunteers, Howard returned to the United States with a renewed and much more ardent desire to help his fellow human and make a difference in the community in which he lived.

Howard was the author of "Basketball Basics", which was written from his love for the sport. Howard was recently head coach for the Soquel High School and Branciforte Jr. High School basketball teams, and a mentor to the students that he coached. He provided them with basic skills, but more importantly, he gave them a sense of pride and self-esteem.

Howard, a sports enthusiast, planned many of the fund-raising events for local sports. He was an active member of the booster club and helped get financing for the all-weather track at Soquel High School. He also founded the Santa Cruz Track Club, where he coached, and helped organize the wharf-to-wharf race which helps sponsors high school sports activities.

Howard will be missed by all those who admired and loved him. His community benefited greatly from his unique ability to coach and to care. Our hearts go out to the Marcus Family.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN E. MOSS

##### HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to join today with my colleagues in tribute to one of the giants of the House of Representatives, John E. Moss.

He retired from his career in this body in 1978. But the inspiration he gave to the members who learned at his side is with us still.

I was privileged to begin my career in Congress as a member of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of what was then the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. John Moss chaired that Subcommittee. He taught us all what tough, fair, tenacious, and totally professional investigatory work could be. He used his power to make Government programs and bureaucracy do what they were supposed to do: carry out the laws and serve the public. And he did it whether the cause was popular or not, embarrassing to the Administration or his own party or not, whether he had to stand alone or not.

I particularly remember some of the early work he did around the issues of nursing home conditions, unnecessary surgery, and

abuses by prepaid health plans. They were trailblazers.

We all know of the commitment and achievements of John Moss to open up government information to ordinary citizens through the Freedom of Information Act. We know of his achievements in the fields of product safety and consumer protection. But perhaps not so widely known is the influence his example and integrity had on so many other Members and staff. Mike Lemov, who served as his Chief Counsel on Oversight, said recently in a tribute to his Chairman that John Moss invariably championed the underdog, and relished uphill fights. And that sums him up as well as any words could. He was in many ways, for so many of us, the conscience of the House.

If it needed to be done for the little guy, he was ready to do it. If he needed to take on big business or big government, the Defense Department or the drug companies, he was there. And he did it with thorough, effective, untiring work.

I consider myself lucky to have had the opportunity to serve with him. He has been gone from this House for many years, but the public that he championed continues to benefit because of his work and accomplishments. We would all be proud to leave such a legacy.

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ILA  
METTEE-MCCUTCHON

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to pay tribute to Colonel Ila Mettee-McCutchon, the Commander of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center and Presidio of Monterey, and Commandant of DLIFLC, on the occasion of her retirement from the U.S. Army. Colonel Mettee-McCutchon has been an inspiration to all during her 26-year career in the armed forces, and her positions of successive command only further confirm her valued leadership within the Army and of the respect shown to her by the men and women serving under her command.

Colonel Mettee-McCutchon is herself an esteemed graduate of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center. She first earned both a B.A. and an M.S. in clinical psychology from Auburn University which prepared her well for her exceptional career in military intelligence. Later, she completed the WAC (Women's Army Corps) Officer Basic Course and the Military Intelligence Officer Advanced Course, and then graduated from the Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College, true marks of distinction in the career of any military officer.

For the first three years following Colonel Mettee-McCutchon's commissioning in 1971, she served as a psychologist at the Presidio of San Francisco responsible for drug and alcohol abuse rehabilitation. After displaying compassion and savvy in that assignment, she was transferred in 1974 to the Military Intelligence Branch and appointed a Regular Army Officer of Military Intelligence, which was the beginning of her extraordinary career in the field of military intelligence. Colonel Mettee-

McCutchon was initially a strategic analyst at Fort Bragg, before moving up to the following posts: Commander, Headquarters and Operations Company, 525th Military Intelligence Brigade, Fort Bragg; Chief, Joint Intelligence Center, U.S. Southern Command Panama; Commander, 741st Military Intelligence Battalion, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, Fort Meade; and Staffer in the Intelligence Division, International Military Staff of NATO, at NATO Headquarters, Brussels. Because of her superb record of accomplishment in these critical intelligence posts, she was chosen to be Commander of the Garrison at the Presidio of Monterey in October, 1994.

Colonel Mettee-McCutchon has earned numerous awards during her career including the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Army Meritorious Service Medal with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters. She is married to John R. McCutchon, Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry (Retired), and has one child, Erin T. Mettee-McCutchon. I am sure everyone who knows Colonel Mettee-McCutchon joins me in recognizing her career of exemplary service to her country, and expressing heartfelt wishes for a happy retirement.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 1998 CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG STAFF EXCHANGE

**HON. RALPH REGULA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the US Congress and the German Parliament have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and convey Members' views on issues of mutual concern.

A staff delegation from the United States Congress will be chosen to visit Germany March 22 to April 4 of this year. During the 2-week exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag members, Bundestag party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies. Cultural activities and a weekend visit in a Bundestag Member's district will complete the schedule.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for 3 weeks this summer. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington and visit the districts of congressional Members.

The Congress-Bundestag exchange is highly regarded in Germany and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. The ongoing situation in Bosnia, the future expansion of NATO and the proposed expansion of the European Union, as well as plans for a single currency will make this year's exchange particularly relevant.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff members who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag sends senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern in Germany and the United States such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, immigration, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to help plan and implement the program for the Bundestag staff members when they visit the United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host one or two Bundestag staffers in their Member's district over the Fourth of July break, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants will be selected by a committee composed of U.S. Information Agency personnel and past participants of the exchange.

Senators and Representatives who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state why they believe they are qualified and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated. Applications may be sent to Kathie Scarrah at 316 Hart Senate Building by Thursday, February 12.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD D. ISAAC

**HON. MARK FOLEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the retirement of a friend of all veterans, and the only director the West Palm Beach DVA Medical Center has ever known, Mr. Richard D. Isaac.

A graduate of Morehead State University and an Army veteran, Rich began his 25-year Department of Veterans Affairs career in his hometown of Pittsburgh as a recreational therapist. With hard work, a professional attitude and a good sense of humor, he served in ten assignments of increasing responsibility including service as the Associate Director at VAMC in Lake City, FL, and as the Associated Deputy Regional Director at the Southeast Region Field Office in Gainesville, FL.

In 1989, Rich was appointed as the director of the new VA Medical Center to be constructed in Palm Beach County, Florida. During the design phase of the medical center, Rich was charged with the daunting tasks of coordinating the efforts of regional clinical and administrative advisors who provided input to architects in the design of each department, as well as evaluating and implementing the overall design to assure quality care for every veteran.

Rich brought the 265-bed medical center and extended care facility to life, with its 800,000 square feet of space, nearly 1600 employees and \$110 million annual budget, and has given the veterans of South Florida one of the most efficient, technologically-advanced and caring medical facilities in the country.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to thank Richard D. Isaac for his many years of service to the

dedicated veterans across our nation. I wish him and his wife, Marie, many enjoyable and healthy years in the mountains of Georgia.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT G. GARD,  
JR.

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of California's Central Coast. Dr. Robert G. Gard, Jr. began a lifetime commitment to public service with a distinguished military career and went on to become a leading advocate for one of Central California's most prized institutions, the Monterey Institute of International Studies. Bob will retire January 30, and he will be deeply missed.

Lt. Gen. Gard served in the U.S. Army not only at the Department of Defense, but in Germany, Korea and Vietnam as well. As commanding general, he oversaw Fort Ord's transition from an Army training center to a light infantry division in the 1970s. Following that success he was brought back to Washington once again, where his expertise led him to become the commanding general of the Military Personnel Center and president of the National Defense University.

After retiring in 1982, Dr. Gard put his international experience to use in the civilian world. Following his service with American and Johns Hopkins universities, the Monterey Institute of International Studies was both savvy and fortunate enough to land Dr. Gard as its President, a post he has filled superbly for over a decade.

Located in California's beautiful Monterey, the Language Capital of the World, the institute provides training in 24 languages and comprises one-fourth of the nation's advanced foreign language training. During Dr. Gard's tenure, the institute has seen a 62 percent increase in student enrollment, a tripling of its endowment and a broadening of its academic and graduate programs like never before.

Under his leadership, MIIS' Center for Non-Proliferation Studies has developed a worldwide reputation as the source of information on the spread of weapons of mass destruction, and is used as a resource by national policy-makers in Congress, the CIA and other federal agencies.

Dr. Gard is a vocal advocate for such humanitarian causes as the elimination of anti-personnel landmines. He has openly pointed to the weapons' military insignificance and the need to prevent further needless destruction of innocent human life by banning them from all future use.

MIIS is a better institution under Dr. Gard's leadership. While Bob's contributions will remain forever, we will surely miss him. On behalf of the constituents of the 17th district, I offer our heartfelt thanks and our best retirement wishes to a true American hero.

FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, on January 29, 1998, Dr. Benjamin Major, M.D., M.P.H., will be honored for over 40 years of volunteer service to Bay Area communities. A specialist in obstetrics and gynecology, Dr. Major has over thirty-five years of experience in practice, with service in not only the United States, but in Africa as well. Dr. Major also possesses a widely varied background in working with private and international agencies providing such services as health planning, project management and manpower development.

From 1941-1943, Dr. Major attended Fisk University in Tennessee, to begin his pre-medical education. He then went on to Meharry Medical College in 1946, also located in Tennessee. From 1946-1951, Dr. Major entered into an internship and residency program in obstetrics and gynecology in the City Hospital System in St. Louis, Missouri. He then completed a Master of Public Health Degree in Health/Family Planning at the California School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley.

Over his distinguished career, Dr. Major has utilized his knowledge of many different areas of medicine in behalf of the community. These experiences include work as an Instructor and Lecturer in Behavioral and Biomedical Aspects of Family Planning; an Instructor in International Health Programs; an Instructor in Health Education (Sex and Family Life), and; by providing clinical training in MCH/FP for African midwives as part of an ongoing project that was started at Meharry College in Tennessee. Dr. Major has generously donated his time and skills to many organizations and hospitals. A principle beneficiary of Dr. Major's expertise has been Planned Parenthood, where he has volunteered for many years with such duties as comprehensive family planning, public health, pre-natal care, infant care and abortion education.

Dr. Major has greatly contributed to the health and well-being of many communities, not only at home but abroad as well. Dr. Major is also to be commended on his many years of accomplishments, and his commitment to teaching others less fortunate.

I congratulate him and thank him for his many years of valuable service, and commend his service to the attention of my colleagues.

SHREWD ADVICE

**HON. LEE H. HAMILTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, one of our former colleagues, Mike Barnes of Maryland, has recently published an essay in the Baltimore Sun in which he describes two recent trips to South Korea—the first in October, before the worst of the financial crisis took hold in Korea, the second two months later, after it had become apparent how severely hit South Korea would be by the economic turmoil that has rocked Asia in recent months.

Mr. Barnes argues that it is very much in America's interest to help South Korea through the current financial crisis. Moreover, he insists, all the fundamentals are present in Korea for a full recovery.

Mr. Speaker, because of our own stake in the Asian crisis, and because we have an immense interest in seeing South Korea weather its current problems, I ask that Mr. Barnes' essay be reprinted in the RECORD.

SOUTH KOREAN 'TIGER' IS IN OUR BEST  
INTEREST

Recently, the Center for National Policy has sponsored trips to two very different countries in Asia. Each time, the destination was South Korea.

In October, we visited a dynamic Asian "tiger" with a booming stock market, huge multinational corporations and a population of 70 million looking forward to 1998 with expectations of improved economic performance.

Late last month, we visited a country in deep emotional depression brought on by the sudden collapse of banks, securities firms, major construction and manufacturing conglomerates and the stock market. Almost overnight, South Korea's currency—the won—lost more than 60 percent of its value. The government was forced to seek emergency assistance from the International Monetary Fund to stave off national bankruptcy. Now, massive job layoffs are inevitable in a society that once regarded them as unthinkable.

Signs of the new economic reality were everywhere. Seoul's infamous traffic jams have virtually disappeared. Stores, buses, airplanes were all half-empty at the height of the holiday season. Prices have skyrocketed for anything that must be imported, such as heating fuel, which has doubled in cost at the beginning of a tough Korean winter. The news media gave wide coverage to tragic stories such as that of the woman who leaped to her death from an apartment window to avoid another argument with her husband over the family's financial difficulties.

Equally dramatic is the change in Korea's politics. The Dec. 18 election of longtime opposition leader and democratic activist Kim Dae Jung as president can only be compared with that of Vaclav Havel in the Czech Republic, Jean-Bertrand Aristide in Haiti or Nelson Mandela in South Africa. In October, we were told it was impossible for Kim to win because he could never appeal to voters outside his rural home province of North Cholla. But he won a narrow victory over two candidates from the ruling party by carrying urban districts, including the capital city of Seoul.

The election of Kim to South Korea's "Blue House" is extraordinary by any measure. When I last met him in 1985, I was a congressman from Maryland serving on the Foreign Affairs Committee, and he was in exile in the United States from a repressive military regime that repeatedly attempted to assassinate him. When they kidnapped him in Japan, only an intense international outcry prevented his murder at the hands of his captors. His ultimate return to Korea was highlighted by an attack of government thugs at the airport and his immediate arrest.

Since his election, Kim has been making the right moves to give Koreans and the world confidence that the economic and political future will be better. He has recognized the need for restructuring Korea's economy in accordance with IMF mandates, called for direct dialogue with North Korea and reached out to domestic political opponents by allowing lame duck President Kim Young Sam to pardon two former military dictators (those responsible for his own persecution). The president-elect has successfully urged the Korean National Assembly to

pass key financial reform bills that give the Central Bank more independence in monetary policy, unifies financial sector regulatory bodies and improves the openness of corporate finances by forcing companies to issue consolidated financial accounts. He also has called for reform of labor laws that will permit layoffs for the first time in Korea, despite the strong support he received from labor unions in his campaign.

Kim's chief of staff, Congressman Yoo Jae Gun, told us that the president-elect's team was surprised at the extent of the economic disaster they were inheriting from the outgoing administration. Nonetheless, they are ready, he said, to take the steps necessary to turn around the economy as quickly as possible.

The Korean economic crisis might have hit with surprising suddenness, but it was many years in formation. In essence, Korean corporate giants financed their global expansion by borrowing from international investors eager to ride the success of the "Korean Miracle." Virtually all of the Korean corporate families, or "chaebols," had accumulated large debts as they circled the world finding new markets for Korean products and manufacturing facilities.

When the "Asian economic flu" began to spread from Thailand through Indonesia to South Korea, foreign lenders, principally New York banks, became nervous and began to demand repayment of loans. When the value of the won dropped precipitously, timely repayment became impossible for many Korean companies. Initially, the Korean government sought to bolster the economy through infusions of new capital, but national reserves of foreign currency were much lower than anyone had expected. As this became apparent to domestic and international observers, a panic ensued that caused the collapse of the Korean stock market and further devaluation of the won. Even the announcement by the IMF of a \$57 billion bailout of South Korea was not enough to stem the panic for more than a couple of days.

The international community recently responded with new commitments to roll over and extend loans to Korean borrowers. International banks have committed new funds that soon will be available to Korean companies. It is hoped that these steps will be sufficient to renew confidence in the Korean economy as the country prepares for Kim's inauguration Feb. 25.

South Korea's success is important to the United States, as Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin has demonstrated by helping marshal international support for Seoul's markets. Not only is Korea a key trading partner, but we have 37,000 troops guarding the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea. Weakness in the south might be misinterpreted in the north as an opportunity to threaten the security of the peninsula.

As one who has closely observed Mexico's recovery from its own recent "peso crisis," I would expect that Korea can rebound even more rapidly. Korea has a strong industrial base, an educated and committed work force, one of the highest rates of saving in the world and a remarkable sense of national unity. Certainly the courage and determination of the new leadership has been proven during the decades of struggle to bring democracy to the country. It is very clearly in the United States' best interest to help them succeed.

#### OBITUARY FOR WILMA McCANN

##### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the 1996 Monterey County Veteran of the year. Wilma McCann, a resident of Salinas, California has had a long established career in the military service department.

Ms. McCann began her profession in the Navy as part of the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service program during World War II. She was active in local veterans affairs and served for two years as the President of "Sea Otter WAVES," a local chapter of WAVES international. She truly was a woman with pioneer spirit.

Moving to Salinas 7 years ago, Ms. McCann served as the vice president of the Monterey County United Veterans Council and on the Monterey County Veterans Advisory Commission. Working with the Women in Military Service for America, she was field representative and state chairperson for California donations.

Ms. McCann has lived her life with others in mind. My thoughts are with her husband, sons, and grandchildren.

#### RETIREMENT OF LEE G. MEYER

##### HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, Lee G. Meyer, Deputy Director of the Phillips Laboratory, Propulsion Directorate at Edwards Air Force Base has retired. His departure means our nation will lose 30 years of exceptional experience and knowledge of rocket propulsion systems.

For those unfamiliar with the Directorate, it is a little-known but vital part of Edwards Air Force Base. Over two hundred military and civilian personnel work at remote facilities to make efficient, dependable rocket propulsion technologies available to our military and space programs. In fact, it would be hard for us to image the events of the last thirty years without the technologies these people helped make available. The giant rocket motor test standards operated by the Directorate, for example, tested both the Saturn V boosters that took Americans into space and ballistic missile technologies that were so critical to this nation's security during the Cold War. Lee Meyer was essential part of these efforts.

Lee's over three decades of work at the Laboratory have contributed greatly to the lab's and our nation's achievements. He started working at Edwards in 1963 as an Air Force officer and remained there for the rest of his career as a civilian Air Force employee. During that time, Lee Meyer worked on all kinds of innovative propulsion technologies and was selected to manage important projects such as the concept definition for the proposed Small ICBM as the Advanced Launch System program which will continue to explore the next generation of space launch technologies.

Lee Meyer's retirement will mean the loss of years of knowledge and experience to his col-

leagues and to the nation. Given the service he has performed for the United States, I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking him for being an important part of our nation's defense.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT ED STROTHER

##### HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life time achievements of Granville County Commissioner Robert Ed Strother. Commissioner Strother died recently at the age of seventy-three. He touched countless lives in his community of Granville County as a devoted educator and public servant.

Commissioner Strother's extensive career as an educator included serving as a school principal, county superintendent, and holding several high-ranking positions in the Department of Public Instruction and the Division of Community Colleges. Throughout his many positions as an educator from Wilton High School basketball coach to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, one thing remained constant for Strother: maintaining children as the top priority. He always had time to listen to a child.

Since 1989, Commissioner Strother served as a Granville County Commissioner serving twice as Chairman of the Board. He represented his district well having the courage to fight on issues that were important to his community. His colleagues on the Board valued his ability to keep the Granville community informed on statewide issues. Commissioner Allgood recalls, "He loved walking the halls of the legislature better than anybody I've ever seen. He kept us all informed of what was going on in Raleigh and how it affected local government." Strother's thoughtful manner and quick wit opened doors for him throughout North Carolina and he incorporated his experiences through the state into his service to the community.

I first met Commissioner Strother while I served as Chairman of the North Carolina House of Representatives Appropriations Committee. He would walk the halls "button-holing" legislators almost weekly. Strother would stop in my office and remind me of the needs of his people in Granville County and of all the children in our public schools and community college system.

I commend Commissioner Strother contributions to Granville County and throughout North Carolina. I feel fortunate to have known Robert Ed Strother as a colleague in education and public service, and I am proud to have had him as a friend. Strother was a true patriot in every sense of the word. Commissioner Strother's legacy will live on in the lives of children he instructed and the members of the Granville community whose lives are richer for having known him. His legacy also lives on through many people who never knew him, but he made their lives better because he cared.

TRIBUTE TO FRIEDY B. HEISLER

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman who continually worked to nurture and to heal, not only the human body but the human spirit and soul as well. Dr. Friedy B. Heisler passed away last July in her Carmel Highlands home.

Born, Sept. 16, 1900, in Switzerland, she graduated from the College of Neuchatel before immigrating to Chicago in 1924. Studying at the University of Illinois Medical School, Dr. Heisler finished her medical residency in psychiatry before opening a private practice in Chicago.

Upon meeting her husband Francis, a civil rights and trade union attorney, Dr. Heisler moved to Carmel Highlands in 1948. She soon became active in the local mental health field, establishing again a private practice which continued until 1984. During this period she served as a mental health consultant to Carmel Unified School District and as an instructor in the Extension Division of the University of California at Berkeley and at Santa Cruz. Dr. Heisler was active in numerous psychiatric and mental health congresses, and she visited mental health institutions. Her vast memberships include: the American Medical Association, International Mental Health Association, Monterey County Mental Health Society, Northern California Mental Health Society, and Mid-Central Coast of Northern California Psychiatric Association. She was honored as a life fellow of the American Psychiatric Association in 1993. Dr. Heisler was instrumental in the founding of the psychiatric department of the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, where she was a former chairman.

Dr. Heisler was truly a woman of impressive stature. Her involvement in mental health and well being was substantial, as was her love for her family and friends. It is at this time that I recognize Friedy B. Heisler's accomplishments and her involvement. She will be missed by the many people she touched during her lifetime.

CUBA'S POLITICAL PRISONERS

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, as Jose Marti, the Cuban patriot said: "The sufferings endured for the sake of winning freedom make us love it the more." Dr. Eugenio De Sosa probably knows more than most of us about that love for freedom and what it is like to live without it. Eugenio De Sosa, now in his seventies, was a successful businessman in a pre-Castro Cuba. Educated in the University of Havana, he earned his degree in diplomatic and consular law and became Editor and board member of the daily newspaper, *Diario de la Marina*, the oldest and one of the most prominent of Latin American publications.

In December of 1959, Dr. De Sosa's life was changed forever. He was arrested by Castro's forces for conspiring against the regime and was forced to serve a prison term of 21 years in Cuba's gulags. The torment endured by Dr. De Sosa during his prison term included routine beatings and torture, both physical and psychological. Eventually he was transferred to the Havana's Psychiatric Hospital where, along with other political prisoners, he was forced to live among the violently insane. In addition to being subjected to the brutality of the guards and deranged prisoners, he was forced to ingest psychotropic drugs and endure electroshock treatments at the hands of Castro's thugs.

After 21 years of suffering through what seemed to be an endless nightmare, this courageous Cuban compatriot was set free. Dr. De Sosa arrived in the United States on January 18, 1980. He has enjoyed tremendous success since his arrival in Miami and is a source of pride to his family and community. Dr. De Sosa's story is but one of the thousands of examples of those whose lives have been scarred and torn apart by the last tyrannical dictator left in the Western Hemisphere, Fidel Castro. Let his story be an example of the strength of the human spirit, of the fragility of freedom and of the hope of millions of Cubans living under Castro's brutal regime to one day be free.

TRIBUTE TO ROSEMARY COLLINS

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman who devoted herself to the people of her community. Rosemary Collins spent her life serving Santa Cruz and her family. She was known throughout the community as loving and kind to all those around her.

Mrs. Collins was active in many organizations, including the Holy Cross Church which was graced by her ability to sing in many of the church events and running the monthly hot lunch program at Good Shepard School.

Rosemary Collins loved children, and children loved her. She was always willing to help a child in need of a hug or just conversation. She worked as a teachers aide and secretary at Soquel Elementary for 28 years, where she helped children with learning difficulties. Her eleven grandchildren brought her great joy in this world along with the many nieces and nephews she read to. Rosemary often said, grandchildren were God's greatest invention, and a hug from a grandchild was what life was all about.

Rosemary Collins is an example for all of us. She was the past president of the California School Employees Association as well as past president of the Young Ladies Institute, a co-founder of the 18-29er Catholic young People's Group of Holy Cross Parish. Her commitment to these organizations, and her time spent on activities of the groups helped keep community spirit alive. She was also a member of the Altar and Rosary Society of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Capitola, and a volunteer for the Santa Cruz county elections department.

Mrs. Collins will be missed by many. She was a model citizen for the community. Rosemary Collins made the lives of our children better and will be dearly missed. Our hearts go out to her family.